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MAGAZINES COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR
PETER TIMPERLEY

GROUP CONTENT DIRECTOR (MAGAZINES)
VICKY MAYER

GROUP EDITOR
MARK KEBBLE

EDITOR
BETHAN ANDREWS
07841 492658

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
FAY WATSON
07785 616291

DESIGNER
DHRUTI VITHANI

DIGITAL EDITOR
VICTORIA PURCELL

PUBLISHING DIRECTOR
JOHN CHEADLE

ADVERTISING MANAGER
CHRIS BOOSEY 07584 503045

SALES ACCOUNT MANAGERS
RAJ SANGHA 07501 226711

NASREEN HALIM 07738 311547

CLASSIFIEDS
JAMES WISE 020 7605 2230

LOGISTICS MANAGER
RYAN MICHAEL

LOGISTICS MANAGER
MEDIA FORCE
ARCHANT@MEDIAFORCE.CO.UK
020 7832 1523

GENERAL ENQUIRES 020 7605 2200

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Distributed in Notting Hill and surrounding areas

CONTENTS

Culture

9 Make sure you don't miss out on some of the best cultural events in your area

16 We discover unseen photographs of Marilyn Monroe at Proud

18 Join us in celebrating 250 years of the Royal Academy

Indulge

32 Chucs Harrods offers a taste of luxury and Italian delicacies

Design

38 How Studio McLeod focused on a wellbeing element of architecture

42 Discover the wonderful new Kensington Palace Pavilion

48 Take some inspiration from icon Frida Kahlo for your home this month

Lifestyle

64 Grace Kennedy shows us how it's done in the business world

70 Escape to Provence this month with Fay Watson

72 We offer you some perfect inspiration for Father's Day

Property

79 All of the latest property news from your local area

On the cover

12
Prasanna Puwanarajah on his new role

22
Discover the independent bookshops of Notting Hill

28
A Peruvian bakery opens its doors

COVER IMAGE:
BY HELEN MURRAY

MAKE UP BY LISA FRANKLIN; LISAFRANKLIN.LONDON; PHOTO BY TOM DUNKLEY

JUNE 2018

Letter from the EDITOR

I'm sure, considering my job, that none of you will be all that surprised to hear that I have always been something of a bookworm and devouring books as they come into my possession has always been a talent of mine. *Matilda* was my favourite book and film of all time (not ashamed to say that it still is – guilty pleasure), and it meant that I would spend hours as a child reading so that I could be like Matilda.

Reading is integral to development and so important in teaching children and adults alike about all elements of life. The more someone reads to a child, for example, the more knowledge that child takes in. But it's also important for people to escape, and to build imagination and curiousity for the world on our doorstep. Not to mention, it can be used as a tool to continuously learn throughout your life.

As *The Guardian* reported last year, there is 'a vibrant new wave of independent booksellers, a long-beleaguered sector of the market that, for the first time in 22 years, is beginning to show signs of recovery. According to new figures from the Booksellers Association, in 2017 the number of independent bookshops in the UK and Ireland grew, rather than shrank, for the first time since 1995.' And although it might be change by a miniscule amount, it's a change I'm very happy to get behind.

Supporting the local community and independent businesses is also something that is important to me, so I was thrilled to explore the reasons behind Notting Hill still having independent bookshops in absolute abundance. Something that I am proud to say that Notting Hill is very good at championing is the support of small businesses, creativity and diversity.

So, let's raise a glass to creativity and Notting Hill! I hope you enjoy the issue.

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CULTURE

PHOTO BY GEM HALL

BALANCING ACT

Gliffords Circus will be celebrating the 250th anniversary of circus with a run at Chiswick House and Gardens this month. Their show, *My Beautiful Circus*, will feature a selection of new and fan-favourite acts including Diana Vediashkina and her troupe of dachshunds, Lisandra Austin's impressive aerial silk act and Pozo the Strongman's display of acrobatics and strength. The show, which has been directed by Cal McCrystal, will be embarking on a country-wide tour but this will be their only performance in London. Circus goers will also be treated to live music from the circus band, gorgeous handmade costumes and a new tent. Giffords will also be hosting a pop-up rustic restaurant, Circus Sauce, serving a three-course menu which changes depending on the seasonal produce of the area.

***My Beautiful Circus* will be at Chiswick House and Gardens from 28 June - 9 July**

AROUND AND ABOUT

The finest in arts and culture events and new launches

Man in the mirror

The National Portrait Gallery will welcome the king of pop into its halls this 28 June - 21 October for an exhibition exploring Michael Jackson's influence on contemporary art. Curated by the Director of the National Portrait Gallery, Dr Nicholas Cullinan, 'Michael Jackson: On The Wall' will span several generations of artists. Opening this summer to coincide with what would have been Jackson's 60th birthday, some of the highlights include Andy Warhol's 1984 portrait and David LaChapelles' 'An illuminating path'.

St. Martin's Place, WC2H 0HE; npg.org.uk

LAST CALL

A double bill of short plays by Swedish playrwright Lars Norén will be on at the Coronet at the Print Room from 1-30 June. *Act* and *Terminal 3* are two hard-hitting and deceptively simple plays, which are directed by Anthony Neilson. The first, *Act,* is reimagined in a near future USA in the aftermath of a second civil war, taking place in a hospital examination room while *Terminal 3* follows a young couple waiting for the birth of their first child as two others wait to identify the body of their dead son.

103 Notting Hill Gate, W11 3LB; the-print-room.org

Gather together

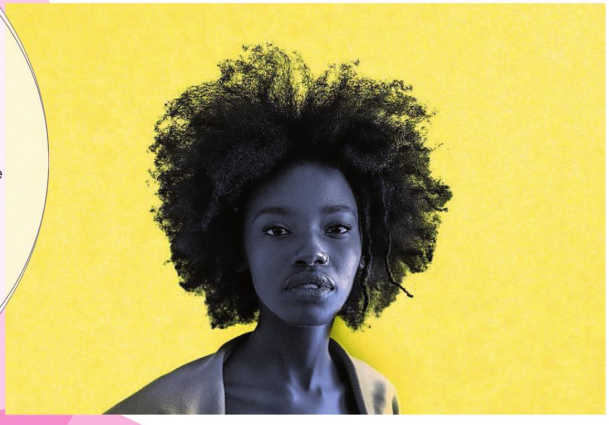
It's nearly time for the Chelsea Street Party on 9 June! Knight Frank are delighted to be proud sponsors of this year's Party, in aid of Ataxia UK. Supporting local businesses and the community is a fundamental element of the event. Expect lots of fun, chats and laughter – and don't forget DJ Gentleman George! Tickets available online.

chelseastreetparty.com

TAKE YOUR TIME

The Bush Theatre will be staging Winsome Pinnock's *Leave Taking* until 30 June. The pre-eminent theatre playwright won the George Devine Award for the play in 1991 and was the first black British woman to have a play produced at the National Theatre. It follows Del and Viv in Deptford, who are 'soul-sick,' leading their mother, Enid, to take her daughters to the local 'obeah' woman for some traditional Caribbean soul healing. As she does, secrets are spilled and relationships explored. The run is also accompanied by a number of talks organised by the Bush Theatre.

7 Uxbridge Road, W12 8LJ; bushtheatre.co.uk



AN ILLUMINATING PATH, 1998 BY DAVID LACHAPELLE; THE KING AND I BY PAUL KOLNIK; THE BIG VALLEY: EVE BY ALEX PRAGER STUDIO AND LEHMANN MAUPIN, NEW YORK AND HONG KONG; SKULLERFLY BY RICH SIMMONS

A royal affair

The much-awaited production of *The King and I* transfers from Broadway to London this month. The musical is one of Rogers & Hammersteins best-loved works and it recieved a great deal of praise during its New York run. The UK transfer will star its original cast, Tony Award winners Kelli O'Hara as Anna Leonowens and Ken Watanabe as The King of Siam. Set in 1860s Bangkok, the musical tells the story of the unconventional and tempestuous relationship that develops between the two. It opens at the London Palladium for previews on 21 June, ahead of a limited run.

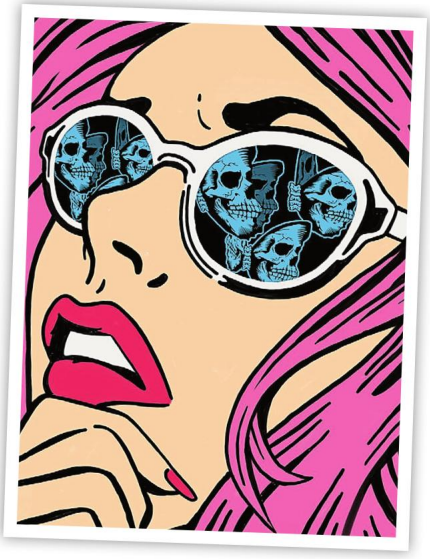
8 Argyll Street, W1F 7TE; kingandimusical.co.uk

American dreaming

The work of American photographer and filmmaker Alex Prager will be on display at The Photographers' Gallery from 15 June. The exhibition, *Silver Lake Drive*, charts her career so far through some iconic images. Predominently shot on sets in Los Angeles, her photographs evoke the glamour and melodrama of mid-twentieth century Hollywood film and fashion from a modern perspective.

16-18 Ramillies Street, W1F 7LW; tpg.org.uk

Rock 'n' roll



For the first time ever Imitate Modern will bring together the work of two iconic artists, Henry Hate and Rich Simmons, for their latest exhibition, *Pop Rocks*. Running until June 6 the work of Hate, a famed tattoo artist who worked with Amy Winehouse (including on the iconic pin-up girl tattoo), Alexander McQueen and many others, and Simmons, who is known for his monumental street murials across London, will be on display at the Mayfair gallery. Imitate Modern likes to champion innovative, impeccable, and sometimes controversial works of art. Both of these artists challenge mainstream cultural norms, often exploring LGBTQ+ themes, politics and identities so expect a rebellious and interesting display.

19 Shepherd Market, W1J 7PJ; imitatemodern.com

DOCTOR'S ORDERS

Prasanna Puwanarajah tells us all about working with Benedict Cumberbatch, romance in Doctor Foster and feeling like a local on Edgware Road

Words FAY WATSON

If you've been watching TV over the past couple of years, then it's almost certain you've seen Prasanna Puwanarajah. Since 2015, the 36-year-old has had stints on *Critical*, comedy drama *You, Me and the Apocalypse,* and most recently in the last series of *Doctor Foster.*

Now, fresh off a run of *Absolute Hell* at the National Theatre, the Edgware Road-based actor will be back on our screens in one of his biggest projects yet – starring opposite Benedict Cumberbatch in mini-series *Patrick Melrose*.

Yet, while acting has been a part of his life since he was 18-years-old and a fresh-faced member of the National Youth Theatre, Puwanarajah actually moved into the industry later than most. In fact, he started out his career as a doctor.

After reading medicine at the University of Oxford, he worked in the NHS for a number of years before taking some time off to write, direct and act.

'There wasn't really a point when I wanted to switch,' he explains. 'I needed to take a break from working in the NHS because I spent two very intense years working straight out of medical school and I needed to take a bit of time away just to catch my breath.'

While, he tells me that he doesn't see himself returning to the profession, that's not to say he's never been called on to use his knowledge. A few years ago he was playing a Greek Orthodox priest at the RSC when an audience member was taken ill and stage management asked if he would go and see her.

'She was fine actually in the end, she was with her family by that time but she saw me and was like "Oh they've sent the priest out",' he laughs. 'She was quite funny about it – she was like "It's great service here".'

Since leaving the NHS, his career has gone from strength to strength with this month seeing the release of *Patrick Melrose*, based on Edward St Aubyn's series of books. Puwanarajah plays Johnny Hall, Melrose's best friend as both

A local on Edgware Road, Puwanarajah has been there for ten years now

HEADSHOTS BY HELEN MURRAY; PATRICK MELROSE PHOTOS BY SKY ATLANTIC/SHOWTIME

go through periods of drug use and recovery over the three decades that the series charts, which is a feat he admits came with its complications.

'A lot of it is about what would happen to a relationship over that amount of time and particularly what doesn't change in relationships between friends and the aspects of relationships between very close friends, which sort of stay the same over the many decades,' he explains.

Conveying the relationship between the pair obviously called for him to work very closely with Cumberbatch when filming. 'He's a lovely guy and a brilliant artist,' he tells me. 'He's collaborative and he's a guy that does his homework. He reaches so deeply into the needs of the role and comes up with incredibly rich and detailed choices in this show. We had a great time working on it together.'

Last year Puwanarajah also made waves in *Doctor Foster,* where he played James, the new romantic interest to Suranne Jones' Doctor Foster. And, due to the nature of the show, fans everywhere seemed convinced there was more to his character than met the eye.

'They assumed there was something sinister about him,

Puwanarajah stars as Johnny Hall in *Patrick Melrose* alongside Benedict Cumberbatch

which I had never really thought to play or bring out because in my view he was just a person who was potentially at the start of a new relationship,' he smiles.

'The minute it was gone, a lot of people want to know what's going to happen next and then the next thing they're saying is "Don't tell me, don't tell me",' he laughs. 'And some of the theories that people put out there were a fun kind of weathervane of how much people had connected with it.'

Outside of the small screen, Puwanarajah has lived near Edgware Road for the past ten years, a spot he feels pretty local to now. 'I love it, it's great, it's the community,' he smiles. 'I've got lovely neighbours. It's a part of London that I think changes quite slowly, which I like.'

He loves to run in Regent's Park when he has the chance, enjoy the blossom trees of the area and hunt for secret pubs, which he says are there in abundance.

'They're secret and quite local in that it doesn't feel like they're on Instagram,' he explains. 'It doesn't feel like people travel across London to go to them. They feel like local places and they feel friendly and lively and gentle and familiar. There's a sort of vibe there that feels quite mixed as a place, but also quite real and honest.'

It strikes me as the perfect place for Puwanarajah, whose honesty and down-to-earth eloquence is obvious when our chat moves on to diversity in the industry. A few days before we speak, he wrote a piece in *GQ Magazine* discussing being typecast and his hope for more diverse stories to be told in theatres and on screen.

At this point, the stories that I'm interested in are the ones I'm not seeing

'Writing is really complicated because you can't have lived every life so you are at one level either writing your own experience or reaching for one that is alien,' he says. 'But at this point, the stories that I'm interested in are the ones I'm not seeing. At this present moment, and I hope this does change, it happens to be stories that I realise that relate to me in some way or things that I haven't seen because they never reminded me of me.'

As a writer and director, alongside an actor, I wonder if he feels any responsibility to be the one telling these stories. 'It's not so much a responsibility,' he says. 'I think we all have a responsibility to tell the minority stories that ask questions about what's outside the mainstream – that's the responsibility of anyone who is trying to tell the story of a complex world.'

A talented and passionate actor, I can't wait to see what projects Puwanarajah has up his sleeve next. ■

***Patrick Melrose* is airing now on Sky Atlantic and NOW TV**

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UP CLOSE *with* MARILYN

Proud Galleries are showing an exhibition of rare photographs by Milton H. Greene of one of the most photographed women in history, Marilyn Monroe

Words BETHAN ANDREWS

THE BED SITTING, 1953 © THE ARCHIVES LLC / ICONIC IMAGES; SCHENCK HOUSE, 1953 © THE ARCHIVES LLC / ICONIC IMAGES; THE BALLERINA SITTING, 1954 © THE ARCHIVES LLC / ICONIC IMAGES

The Bed Sitting, 1953

This rare and previously unpublished photograph is part of a series taken at the guest villa in the estate of Joseph Schenck, one of the founders of 20th Century Fox. The simple environment of only pillows, sheets, a robe, and a copper cup (very fashionable in the 1950s) demonstrated Monroe's versatility; a chameleon showing a different personality with each new scenario and ensemble. This photograph also reveals how comfortable Monroe was with Greene when he was behind the camera.

Schenck House, 1953

Joseph Schenck was partners with Darryl F. Zanuck and together they created 20th Century Fox. After being convicted and serving time for tax evasion, Schenck returned to 20th Century Fox and mentored a young, up-and-coming Monroe. He remained Monroe's benefactor, but was unable to convince Zanuck to give her more roles of substance, a reality that fuelled Monroe's desire to be free from her restricting contract. As Greene was her friend as well as artistic partner, he assisted with Monroe's negotiations in an attempt to have her contract with Fox changed. During one autumn weekend in 1953, Schenck allowed Greene and Monroe to stay at the guest villa of his Beverly Hills estate, where the pair created this series of relaxed photographs.

THE BALLERINA SITTING, 1954

Perhaps Greene and Monroe's most recognizable series of images, the 'Ballerina Sitting' was named by Time magazine in 1999 as one of the top three photographs of the 20th century. Taken in Greene's New York studio, Monroe is wearing an ill-fitting tulle-and-satin dress. The design of the dress has been commonly attributed to Anne Klein, a close personal friend of the Greenes whose clothes Milton frequently borrowed. However, it was actually created by another New York designer, Herbert Kasper. The fitting error was because Greene's wife, Amy, did not know Monroe's actual dress size. The dress was apparently two sizes too small, requiring Monroe to hold up the front bodice. Her ability to adapt and make the most of every situation is indicative of her hardworking spirit, sense of humour and trust in Greene.

***Up Close with Marilyn: Portraits by Milton H. Greene*; Proud Central, 11 May – 24 June; proud.co.uk**

BIG BIRTHDAY

As the Royal Academy of Arts celebrates its 250th anniversary, we take a look at where the institution has come from and where it is today

Words ALEXANDER LARMAN

It is a fair bet that, when Sir Joshua Reynolds founded the Royal Academy in 1768 as its President, he could not have predicted the way in which, over the next two and a half centuries, it would become one of the major focal points for celebrating the visual arts both in London and across the globe.

Reynolds, along with 35 other artists and architects, wished to operate an independent organisation that would be privately funded, and take as its guiding principle a celebration of 'the Arts of Design'. Those involved within the organisation would then, as now, be known as Royal Academicians, and their influence continues to be felt throughout the world of art and architecture today.

It is fitting that one of today's Royal Academicians, Sir David Chipperfield, has masterminded a major renovation and reimagination of the Academy's Piccadilly headquarters, which has combined its two locations at Burlington House and Burlington Gardens for the first time, creating a magnificent and impressive space that will enable the Academy both to continue its programme of world-class exhibitions and to allow its permanent collections to be on display to a far greater extent than has been previously possible.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY'S NORTH-FACING ENTRANCE, BURLINGTON GARDENS. IMAGE: HAYES DAVIDSON; CROSS-SECTIONS OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY'S SITE IN 2018. IMAGE: HAYES DAVIDSON; COLLECTION GALLERY IN 2018

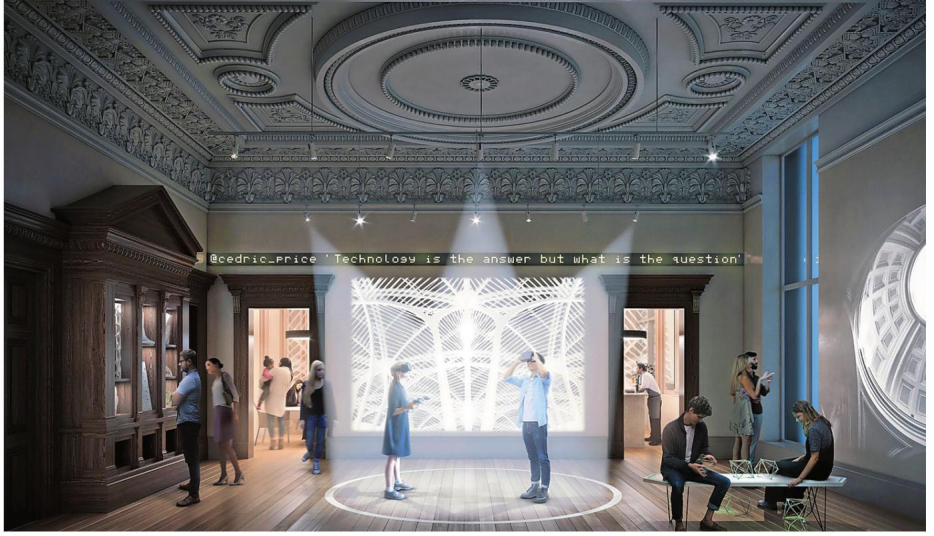
In addition to significant investment in visitor facilities and education opportunities, it will be making the most of a £12.7 million grant from the National Lottery, continuing the relationship between art and benefaction that began when George III endorsed the Academy upon its inception, hence the 'Royal' part of its title.

A rightly proud Chipperfield says of his work that 'the project is an architectural solution embedded in the place itself, a series of subtle interventions that will add up to something very different. The big change is that the Royal Academy will have two entrances, a front door facing Piccadilly in the south and a new front door to Burlington Gardens, Cork Street and Bond Street. You will be able to go from an exhibition in Burlington House to a lecture in Burlington Gardens through the vaults of the building. You will see the Cast Corridor and you will see where the RA schools have been all this time'. It has been a seismic shift, but, as Chipperfield says: 'It's a small amount of architecture for a profound result.'

Many treasures from the early years, and before, will be on public display in the new Royal Academy Collection Gallery, including Michelangelo's 'Taddei Tondo' and works by Constable, Reynolds and Turner. But the emphasis here will be on the present as much as it is on the past; the Gabrielle Jungels-Winkler Galleries will be displaying work by living artists and architects, ▸

beginning with Tacita Dean's *LANDSCAPE* exhibition, which will be on display until 12 August. The nearby Ronald and Rita McAuley gallery, meanwhile, will feature site-specific installations by Royal Academicians, with the inaugural work being *Tips for a Good Life* by Roberta and Bob Smith.

It has been a long time in the planning and execution, but thanks to the chutzpah with which it has been accomplished, the relaunched Royal Academy is now both continuing and fulfilling the mission statement with which it began in 1768. Its Secretary and Chief Executive Charles Saumarez Smith comments that 'the physical transformation of the site will fundamentally change our almost 250-year-old institution. We are, first and foremost, artist and architect-led, home to a community of the world's greatest artists and architects, and a centre for training artists, with practitioners and an art school at its heart. This is not just a major building development; it is an undertaking that will transform the psychological, as well as the physical, nature of the Academy. At long last, we will be able to open up the RA, and share with our public more of our mission to promote the understanding, appreciation and practice of art and architecture'.



Architecture Studio in 2018

John Everett Millais, Isabella, 1849. Oil on canvas

Michael Craig-Martin, Reconstructing Seurat (Orange), 2004. Acrylic on aluminium panel

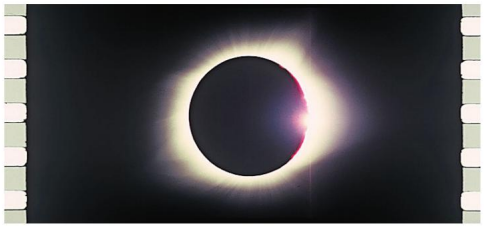
ISABELLA COURTESY NATIONAL MUSEUMS LIVERPOOL, WALKER ART GALLERY; RECONSTRUCTING SEURAT BY MICHAEL CRAIG-MARTIN. COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND GAGOSIAN

One major proponent of both art and architecture is none other than the celebrated Will Alsop, OBE, a Stirling Prize winner (for the Peckham Library) who was elected an Academician in 2000. Alsop, who once said 'I have wanted to be an architect before I knew what architecture was', is a stalwart supporter of the Royal Academy, regularly exhibiting in its Summer Exhibition ('a glorious thing'), and generally approving of the evolution of the RA in all its forms.

As he says: 'While I think of myself as an architect, I've increasingly spent time on art, which has always been part of my world, and so my work with the Royal Academy has enabled me to see how the one affects the other. The two disciplines influence each other. I put a lot of colour in my paintings, and I enjoy feeling the lack of constraint. Nonetheless, the most frightening thing is always an empty canvas, or a big piece of paper. The real art, I suppose, is knowing when to stop the creative process.' (As *The Resident* was going to press, we were informed of the death of Will Alsop, and send our condolences to his friends and family.)

It is certainly a given that the creative process has never ceased in the past two and a half centuries at Burlington Gardens. As the Royal Academy's Artistic Director Tim Marlow puts it: 'In 2018, the new RA will become the most animated cultural campus in London, running all the way from Piccadilly to Mayfair. The redevelopment gives us amazing flexibility and capacity to be much more ambitious with our public programming, our exhibitions, learning and debate.'

It is tempting to think that, should Joshua Reynolds be able to transport himself into the present day, he would see what is being done at the Academy, and see it as the natural extension of a creative and artistic process that he began. On this evidence, the next two and a half centuries promise to be just as exciting. r



Tacita Dean, Antigone, 2018. 2 synchronised 35mm anamorphic colour films, optical sound, with a running time of exactly one hour. Film still (detail)

Tacita Dean working on The Montafon Letter, Los Angeles, 2017

COURTESY THE ARTIST, FRITH STREET GALLERY, LONDON AND MARIAN GOODMAN GALLERY, NEW YORK/PARIS; PHOTO OF TACITA DEAN BY FREDRIK NILSEN STUDIO, ARTWORK COURTESY THE ARTIST; GLENSTONE MUSEUM, POTOMAC, MARYLAND; FRITH STREET GALLERY, LONDON AND MARIAN GOODMAN GALLERY, NEW YORK AND PARIS.

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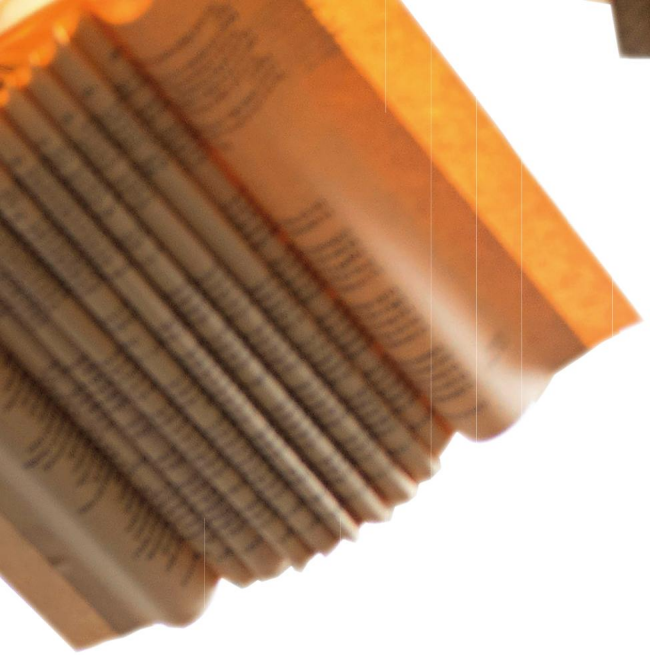
READ ALL ABOUT IT

When so many bookshops are feeling the pinch, what makes Notting Hill's cluster of independent sellers so successful?

Words FAY WATSON



Whether you're walking along Holland Park Avenue visiting the famous Daunt Books or following a trail of manhole covers embossed with poetry around Notting Hill, it's hard to miss the literary heritage of this area.

It bleeds through local novels like G. K. Chesterton's 1904 *The Napoleon of Notting Hill*, through the many published authors who live here and the collection of literary agencies nestled within the surrounding area.

But, perhaps there's no better example of the power of literature in Notting Hill than the fact that it houses three independent bookshops within just two adjoining streets. So why when so many independent bookshops are stuggling, is this the place to be?

It helps that some of them are known all around the world, like The Notting Hill Bookshop, which was made famous by the 1999 film *Notting Hill*. This legacy lives on through the blue plaque outside the door on Blenheim Crescent, which tourists are happily posing in front of as I walk in one Friday morning.

But inside, apart from a few postcards with Hugh Grant's face on them, this quaint bookshop offers a great eclectic selection of titles, from classics to a weird and wonderful section.

It's comforting to know that people are throwing away their kindles and going back to books

With each of the people who work there loving different parts of literature, the collection almost guarantees you'll come out with something unique. 'It's my favourite thing when someone comes in and they ask for something so random and we we have it in,' bookseller Sophie Harris tells me with a smile.

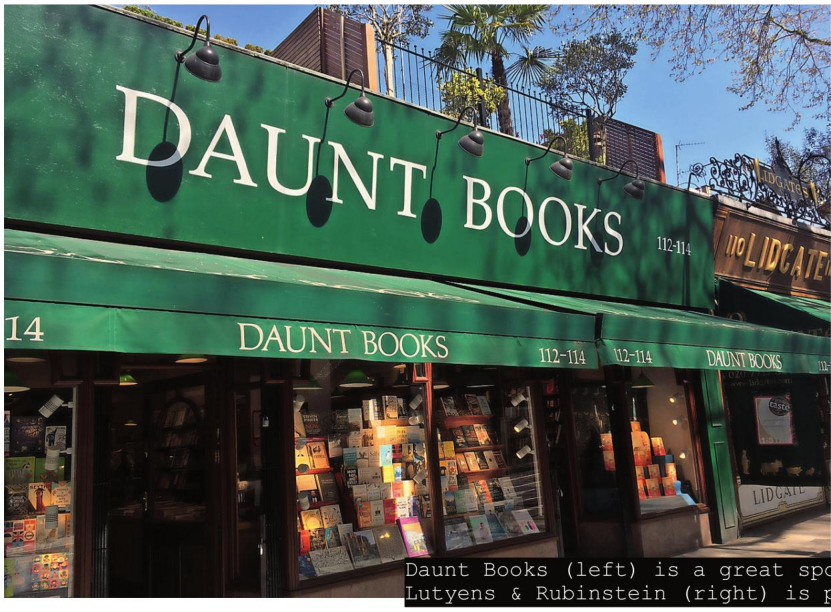
'Although it's a touristy bookshop – a lot of people think of it as touristy – I don't think that we necessarily push that much, we've only got this tiny section, we want this to be a bookshop as much as possible,' she adds.

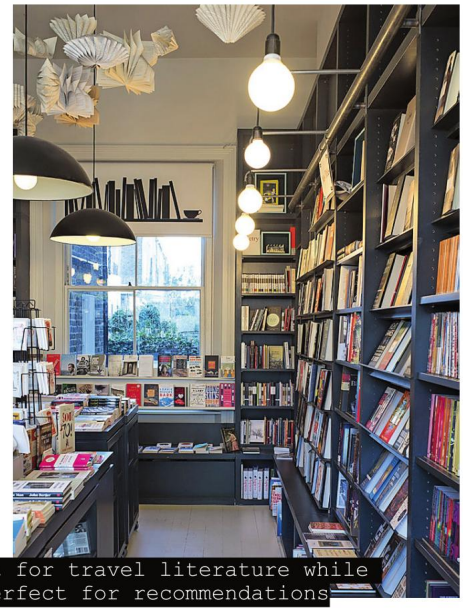
But, The Notting Hill Bookshop does still retain a well-stocked travel section for fans of the film hoping to find that when they come in. 'At the end of the day, it was in the film and I think some people can look at that negatively, but I don't think that it should be, it's part of the history of the shop.'

Over on Kensington Park Road, you'll find literary agency and bookshop Lutyens & Rubinstein. Founded by locals Sarah Lutyens and Felicity Rubinstein in 2009, it is a bookshop that is definitely supported by the local community of book lovers.

Indeed, one of the first things that's clear when you're inside the shop is how many frequent it, with plenty of people popping in, asking for recommendations and almost always walking out with a book in tow. 'We believe in people coming in and telling us what they're looking for rather than us saying everyone should have the same books,' Manager Claire Harris explains to me.

Part of this community spirit ▸





Daunt Books (left) is a great spot for travel literature while Lutyens & Rubinstein (right) is perfect for recommendations

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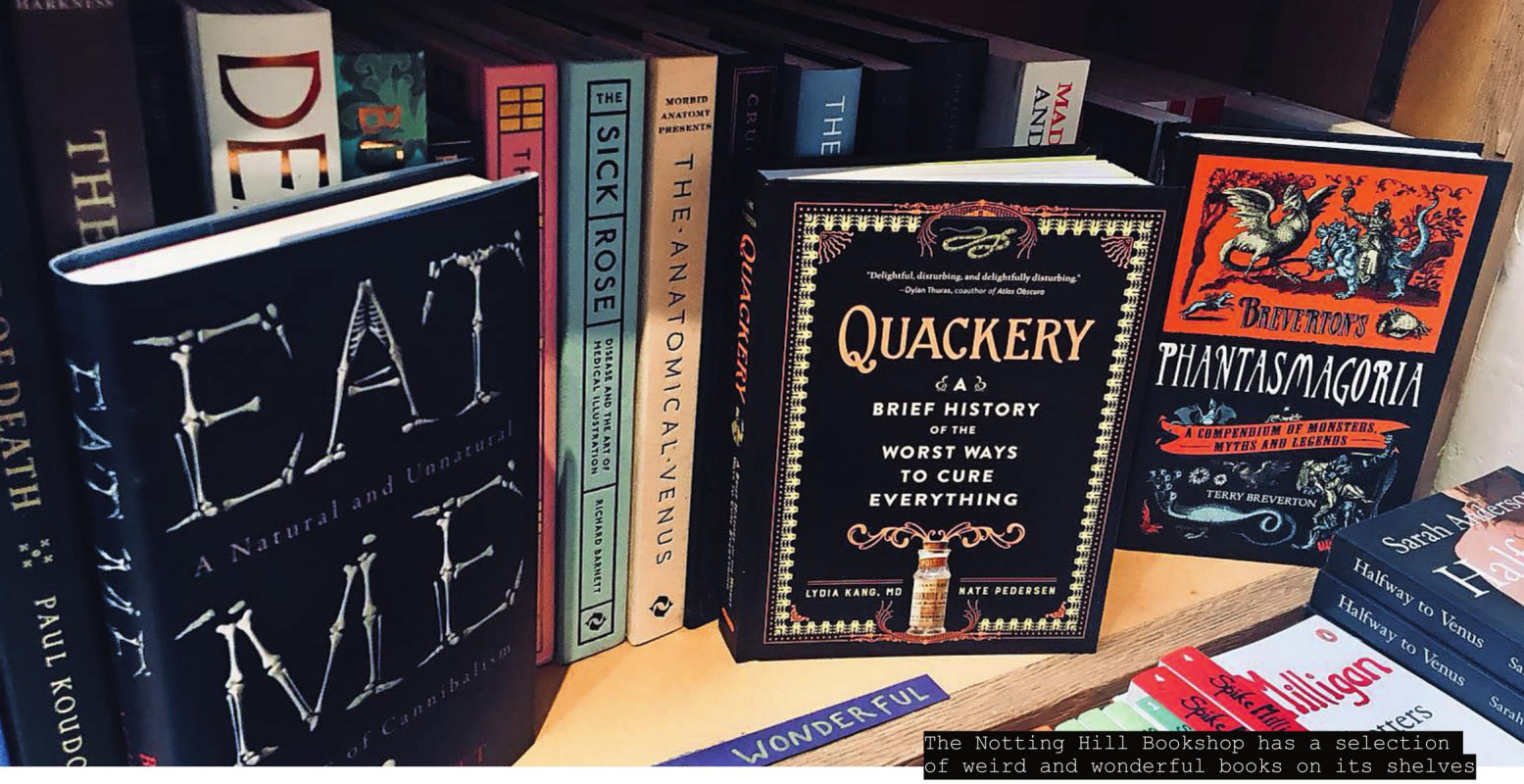


The Notting Hill Bookshop has a selection of weird and wonderful books on its shelves

also comes from the regular events the team hold at the shop alongside hosting five book clubs. 'I think we very much view ourselves as a community space as so many places are closing, pubs, theatres, libraries – it's really nice to have people in,' Harris adds.

The rise of online discounters offering the same products at a cheaper price remains a big concern to bookshops in our high streets, but it seems that Notting Hill still offers a spot where people value their literature. 'It's nice to think that bookshops are flourishing and it's comforting that people are throwing away their Kindles and going back to books,' Harris says. 'It's like vinyl – books are a bit retro now.'

Sun shines in from the skylight of The Notting Hill Bookshop

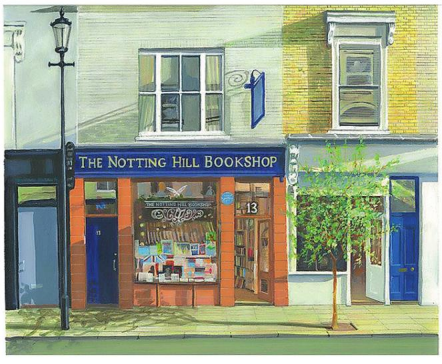
In an area where you're spoilt for choice with bookshops, you also have to recognise that the market is constantly changing, which is something that Books for Cooks on Blenheim Crescent certainly does. Equipped with plenty of cookery titles in the shop, the staff put these to the test in the café at the back of the shop each lunch from Tuesday to Saturday.

'The main business of Books for Cooks is to sell cookbooks – nothing is more important than selling cookbooks,' co-owner Eric Treuille tells me.

'To sell cookbooks today when you've got them everywhere and you could get them from anywhere, it's to know the product much better than anybody else. So what we do is we take the cookbooks and we cook them.'

The shop, which has been there since 1983, has people from all over coming to visit it. But even Treuille, who runs the shop with his wife Rosie after they met there years ago, admits that they haven't been immune to the pinch all independent bookshops feel.

'It's tough, it's hard,' he explains. 'When the times were good you don't know it was good. Now the times are hard you really do see how good it was. Now you really have to work to sell a product and the kitchen helps.'



PHOTOS BY MOA JOHANSSON

The issue arises when bookshops like his become more like a museum or a reference point before customers then go and shop online for the same titles.

'The importance of keeping bookshops is to keep it real, there are few businesses you are happy to see going,' he says. 'There are some new ones when you think "oh god how many more do we need in the street?" But there are some of them when they are gone, it's going to be difficult to replace them – a locksmith, a cobblers, a book store, a news agent.

'Books are amazing, whatever the subject you choose, it's amazing. Reading words is great. You can't replace that. You can't replace the written word.'

So drop in, browse the stacks and, most importantly, buy something to help Notting Hill retain its reputation as a book lover's paradise. ■

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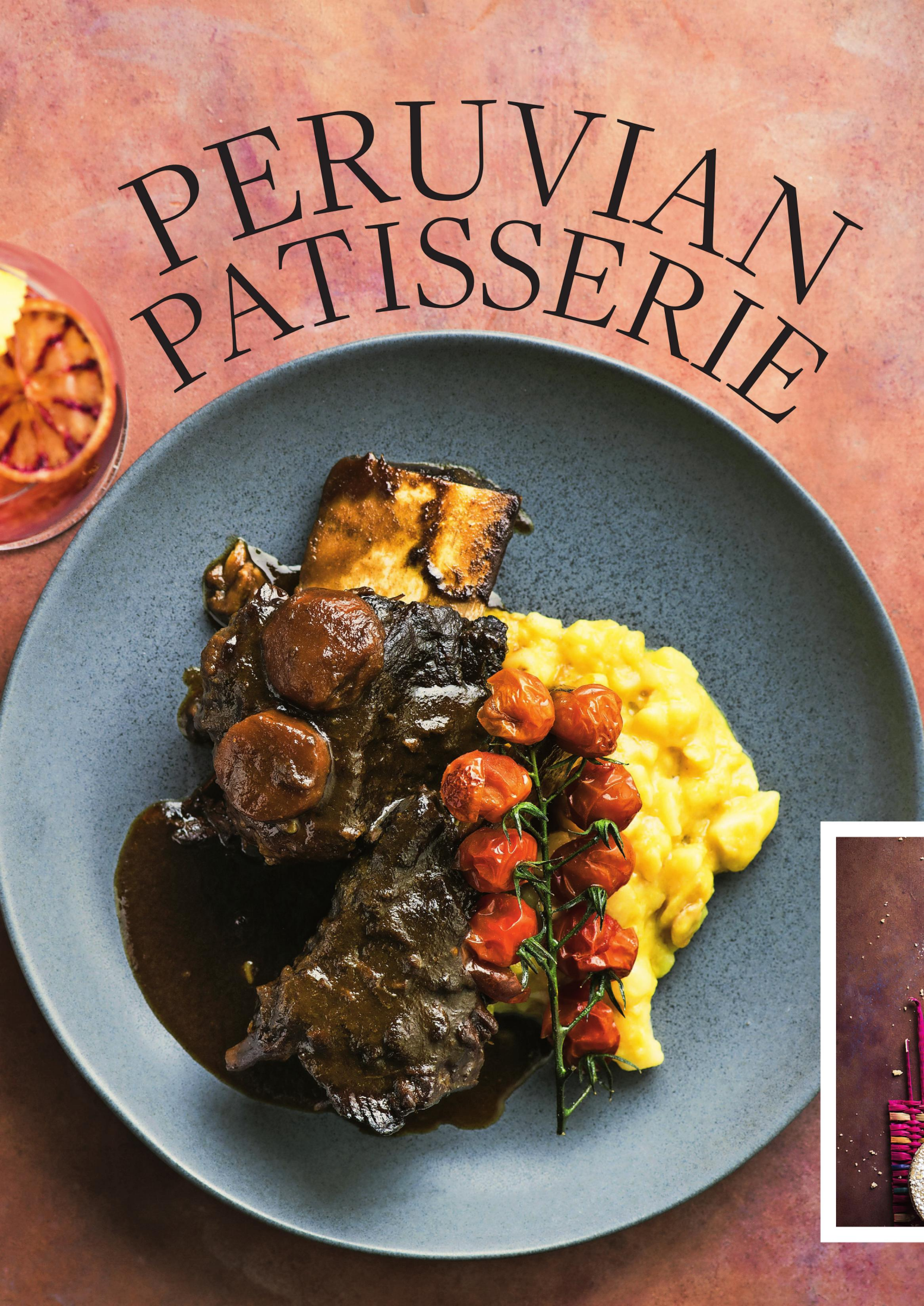
INDULGE

FRAGRANT FIND

Babel House is a new restaurant located in the heart of Mayfair. Inspired by the vibrant sounds and delicate salty air from the multicultural port towns of the Black Sea, Babel House infuses the rich cultural heritage of the area and its six bordering countries with a slick avant-garde design to present a menu enriched with fragrant dishes influenced by the region's history. Babel House (which borrows its name from modernist Odessan novelist Isaac Babel) is located within a striking 19th century townhouse on Bruton Place in Mayfair and combines a quintessential residential London feel with elegant historic Odessan references.

26 Bruton Place, Mayfair W1J 6NG; 020 7629 5613; babelhouse.co.uk

PERUVIAN PATISSERIE



Martin Morales on his journey from growing up in Lima to opening a Peruvian bakery in Notting Hill

Words BETHAN ANDREWS

Having been born in Lima, Peru, Martin Morales grew up with both his mother and grandmother teaching him the ways of Andina. As we settle down to chat about his journey from setting up Ceviche to opening the first Peruvian bakery in London, he tells me stories of how his grandmother was a farmer and was very influential in his life, not only because of her cooking, but because of her status in the village that she was brought up in where she became the Lord Mayoress.

'I will never forget those first journeys and those after that where I would go to visit her, and I would eat in incredible little family run restaurants along the way, as well as in her village where there were wonderful bakeries,' says Morales with a smile. 'The smells and the ingredients were just incredible. That was the first part of inspiration on the Andean side, but then also in Lima, I have memories of eating Creole cuisine and the smells and flavours were really strong in my memories of that as a child too.'

In Peru, Morales tells me, food is much more important than politics, than sex, than football. 'It's what everyone talks about more than all of those things combined, we are obsessed with food,' he smiles. 'When my father was threatened by the shining path guerrillas, I was about 10 and we came to Britain, but I missed those flavours so, so much. I was the chef of the house as my father didn't like cooking, but I inherited that skill for putting ingredients together and that's how I kept my home happy. It progressed into a passion and I always hoped that one day I would have a restaurant.'

Morales firstly pursued a career in music and tech, and worked with record labels as a music producer, but eight years ago, enough was enough and he started to dream about carving out his restaurant. 'That journey was incredibly slow, painful and difficult because it had never been done before,' says Morales. 'In London, no-one had ever presented Peruvian food in this way or with the kind of style and originality that I was doing. It was a restaurant that was fun and inclusive as well, almost Michelin standard, but without the fuss.'

So Morales sold his house to set up Ceviche and through that, he counts himself lucky that he has been able to create a wonderful team – a team that Morales is full of praise for, something that's lovely to listen to. 'I want to support my team and help them in their own dreams,' he smiles. 'In several trips that we have done to Peru, we have all been fascinated by the bakeries, so when this property came up, I thought it would be really nice to give people variety and do something unusual, creative and mad.'

I feel it's very obvious that Morales never expected to become quite as renowned as he is in the London restaurant scene, and he remains very humble. 'I'm just a pebble in a big beach,' he says. 'I'm just lucky enough that I've got a nice view of the sea and that's all I want! Life is so short, you can only dream, but not be an idiot to think that all of those dreams can come true. Ceviche absolutely surpassed my dream, and now we are able to open this stunning bakery and restaurant in a neighbourhood that I love with a real passion.'

Peruvian food has got the sophistication of French cuisine and the aromas of Thai

I wonder what it is about the Peruvian way that has taken London by storm. 'There are a few things really and I guess I'm just paraphrasing what our customers

The pioneer of Peru, Martin Morales

PHOTOS BY ISSY CROKER

say in some ways,' says Morales.

'From my side, I always felt that it was perfectly seasoned dishes with incredible flavours and really fascinating ingredients that are new for London and could prove to be nutritious, healthy but also exciting for chefs. There are thousands of recipes that are like secrets that will blow you away. What people say is that the food is fresh, colourful and there are so many different types of flavours. Peruvian food has got the sophistication of French cuisine, the aromas of Thai and the spice of Mexican or Indian, but the accessibility of Chinese.'

Today, as a pioneer of Peruvian cooking, Morales has launched London's first Peruvian bakery, Andina Panaderia on Westbourne Grove alongside a brand new restaurant, Andina Picanteria. Located side by side at 155 and 157 Westbourne Grove, Andina Panaderia and Andina Picanteria pay homage to the female Andean chefs who have inspired Morales and his team since opening Ceviche.

So what can people expect from London's first Peruvian bakery? Led by Head Pastry Chef Ana Velasquez, Andina Panaderia will specialise in slow-ferment baking with traditional sweet and savoury pastries and breads alongside hot dishes, lunchtime salads and all-day brunch-style dishes to eat in or take away.

The magic will begin in the early hours, when Andina's bakers will fill the shelves with Peruvian breads such as Andean black mint and sweet potato sourdough; the delicately crusted traditional pan frances roll; and the challah-like chancay bread, a cinnamon-scented take on brioche. Sweeter treats include the Pastel de Lúcuma, an Andean spin on the famed Portuguese custard tart, and the chicha morada muffin, a purple corn muffin with a moorish corn and almond centre. A selection Peru's finest coffee and teas will be available as well as Andina's much loved smoothies and juices.

Designed alongside Barcelona's award-winning El Equipo Creativo, the open-plan space is a contemporary take on an Andina bakery with eucalyptus wood tables accentuated by mustard yellow seating, breads and pastries on display, clay quartz counters and terracotta and porcelain pendant lights designed by Hand & Eye. So what is Morales most excited about? 'I'm most excited about that first moment when people who have never tried Peruvian food and to see the looks on their faces when they do,' he beams. r

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FOOD REVIEW

CHUCS, HARRODS

Chucs, the brand that originally started as simply a shop selling 1950s inspired menswear collections, has now branched out into four restaurants – a big departure from their humble roots. Chucs Restaurant & Cafe is the sister concept to the swimwear and men's fashion label of the same name, founded by Charles Finch. And it's one that is going from strength to strength, with the elegant 1950s Italian design of the sites meaning that people are flocking to eat there.

But the Harrods site is a little lesser known gem of the four restaurants having only opened in February, so I was excited to see what was happening there. The design setting and interiors evoke feelings of a luxury yacht, so you can really escape and sail away while dining here. Expect flavours of the Riviera, Italian indulgence that makes you want to just keep on eating even after you are full.

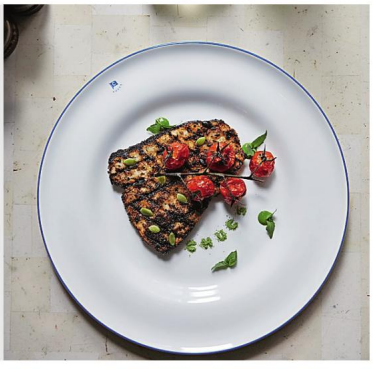
CHUCS PHOTOS BY STEVEN JOYCE; BLACK ROE

The chic styling and attention to detail in the interiors gets the meal off to a great start, with the dark woods, luxe leathers and low lighting evoking a sense of mystery and cosiness. With each plate monogrammed and personalised to Chucs, there is a definite air of exclusivity to the eatery that perfectly suits the food and the atmosphere, and the service feels luxurious throughout too.

With a brand new menu created for the new Harrods opening, you can expect exotic dishes such as stracciatelli and anchovies and Alaskan crab. For starter, I couldn't resist the lobster and avocado chopped salad, and it was presented beautifully.

It's always nice when ordering something quintessentially British such as a steak, for it to be presented in a way that is a little out of the ordinary. And let me tell you, the truffle maccheroni cheese pot that accompanies the perfectly cooked steak here is something seriously special. I'd go so far as to say that it is worth paying the restaurant a visit even just for that!

My guest was just as enamoured with her main course choice of



asparagus risotto with goat's cheese and hazelnut powder. Again, as expected given the reputation of both Harrods and Chucs, the dish was presented beautifully and had the edge on any other risotto that she had tried before.

Don't miss out on the dessert either, as the desconstructed tiramisu is something quite special and, again, a twist on a favourite of so many. The flavours are blended perfectly and the construction of the dish means that you get the best bits of a tiramisu with every mouthful. Also, Chucs has its own entrance on Hans Road so is open long after the store has closed – so there is no excuse not to try it!

Hans Road SW1X 7XL; chucs.com

RESIDENT RATING
★★★★★

THE QUICK LIST

Don't miss out on some of the hot new openings for this month

Tropical treats

Throughout spring and summer, Black Roe will be a tropical oasis introducing you to a Pacific Paradise located in the heart of Mayfair, guests will experience a slice of island life in celebration of their second birthday. From a Hawaiian style summer poke bar, to the tropical floral installation and a cocktail menu that transports you to tranquil beaches; Black Roe will be bringing the spirit of summer inside. Cascading from the ceiling, a fusion of sunset blossoms, Asian poppies, orchids and blousy peonies will hang above diners.
4 Mill Street, Mayfair W1S 2AX; blackroe.com

Street feast

To celebrate the arrival of the warmer weather, Atul Kochhar's Michelin-starred Indian restaurant and bar, Benares in Mayfair, will launch a unique plant-based 'street-food' style menu to its repertoire, taking guests on an exciting culinary journey from the east to the west corners of India. The brand new dishes will each be designed by a chef in the Benares kitchen and are inspired by the street food speciality from their own hometown. Guests will be able to experience dishes from Lucknow in North East India through to Maharashtra in West India, each using different marinating methods and time-honoured tandoor traditions.
12a Berkeley Square, Mayfair W1J 6BS; benaresrestaurant.com

Instagram friendly

The Courtyard Garden at Sanderson is a lush, hidden oasis complete with a fountain and reflecting pool. Inspired by Laurent-Perrier Cuvée Rosé, this summer's special touches include a seated swing adorned with pink roses to create a throne for the Queen of Hearts (a must for Instagram). The playful space is perfect for summer dining, as is the new Mad Hatters Cuvée Rosé Tea. It is all in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Laurent-Perrier Cuvée Rosé.
50 Berners Street, Fitzrovia W1T 3NG; morganshotelgroup.com

Picnic time

With summer finally here, picnic season beginning and several traditional British summer events drawing ever closer (not to mention the fact we've had a Royal wedding), The Mount Street Deli has created the ultimate Best of British Hamper. Filled with delicious British goodies, it is perfect for a picnic, Ascot, Wimbledon, Henley Royal Regatta, Trooping the Colour and the BBC Proms.
100 Mount Street W1K 2TG; themountstreetdeli.co.uk

Food on the move

The New Zealand trio behind Caravan Restaurants have announced that they will open a new restaurant in Fitzrovia, located in the stunning ex BBC Radio 1 recording headquarters. The new site will bring Caravan's signature well-travelled, all day dining and craft coffee to Fitzrovia and will be home to their brand new Caravan-To-Go concept.
152 Great Portland Street W1W 6AJ; caravanrestaurants.co.uk

Sky high

Located atop the iconic Oxford Street department store, Selfridges' rooftop has a long-held reputation for attracting the most exciting rooftop concepts in London. Now this sky-high hideaway is reopening this spring in partnership with the hugely successful independent Italian restaurant brand, San Carlo, and the result looks set to be fabulous.
400 Oxford Street W1A 1AB; selfridges.com

Snap it up

Street sea-foodies CLAW are shaking things up for summer with a complete menu transformation, launching at the end of this month. The laid-back crustaceous eatery will be dishing up their most popular favourites including Crab Mac & Cheese along with new delicious plates such as Lobster Rolls and Trout Reuben, at their restaurant on Kingly Street.
21 Kingly Street, Soho W1B 5QA; clawfood.com

A THOROUGHLY MODERN ROAST

Why you should be making yours Scotch Beef

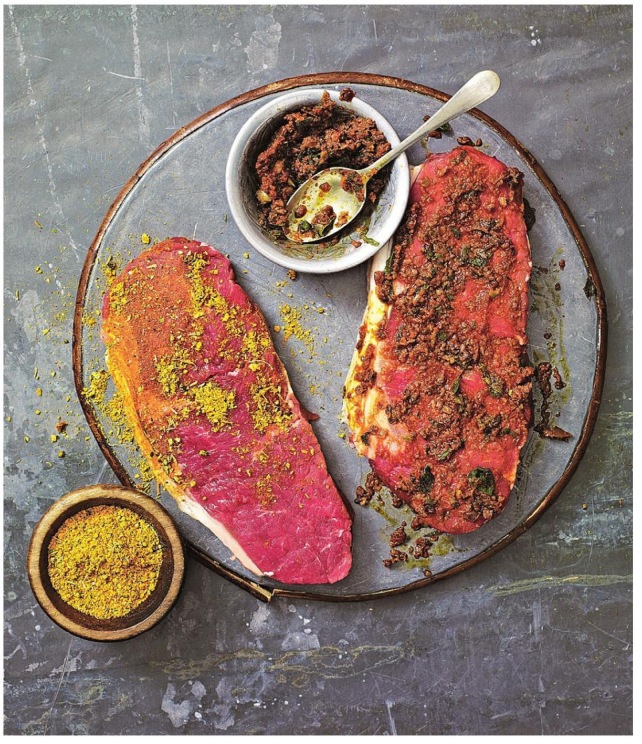
We all know that good meat is perfectly seasoned with just a little salt and pepper, but if you want something a bit different to add a modern edge to your roast, a dry rub or alternative accompaniment can bring a new dimension of flavour to your dishes. That's why the Scotch Kitchen has created a collection of contemporary serves, suited to your taste and cooking style. So get the whole family round and discuss the day over dinner with these recipes which are sure to shake up any Sunday lunch.

The Mediterranean One

This is a lovely gutsy rub, full of Mediterranean flavours, delicious on Scotch Beef steaks accompanied by a big bowl of salad or rolled on a Scotch Beef rump roast.

Ingredients:
2 cloves smoked garlic
1 tbsp sun dried tomato purée
1 tbsp black olive paste or tapenade
2 tsp chopped fresh oregano

Method:
Mix all the ingredients together to make a paste, then spread over the scored surface of your chosen Scotch Beef cut. No need for salt.



The Smoky One

This smoky rub is perfect for a slow cooked Scotch Beef brisket, creating a wonderful 'bark' on the meat that everyone will be vying for. And it's lovely sprinkled over potatoes that you are about to roast if there's any left over.

Ingredients:
1 tsp Paprika or sweet smoked paprika
1 tbsp mustard powder
2 tsp dried thyme or mixed herbs
½ – 1 tsp salt
½ tsp ground black pepper

Method:
Mix all ingredients together, sprinkle a little of the seasoning over the meat then rub in well before cooking.

The Superfood One

Roast Scotch Beef with Blueberries – where superfruit meets mighty Scotch Beef in an unusual combination that works a treat for a rich fruity twist on the traditional roast.

Ingredients:
450ml red wine
300ml beef or vegetable stock
4 shallots, finely chopped
1 punnet of blueberries (approx. 225 g)
A few sprigs of fresh thyme

Method:
Place the red wine, stock, shallots, thyme and half the blueberries in a saucepan and heat to a gentle simmer, uncovered, until the liquid reduces by half. Strain through a sieve, then add the remaining blueberries. Heat through to soften the blueberries and serve with thinly sliced roast Scotch Beef.

The globally renowned Scotch Beef PGI logo offers a guarantee of provenance, quality and traceability, as well as exceptional flavour. For more first-rate recipe inspiration, visit ScotchKitchen.com and keep up to date with the Scotch Kitchen on Facebook and Twitter @ScotchKitchen

SHORE THING

Taste the seaside in Mayfair with a gourmet Indian Seafood Showcase from 15 May–30 June

Words JENNIFER SHARP

London foodies are bullied by novelty, the constant pressure to try the newest restaurant or gimmicky trend. Established places can drop off the radar and you forget that they endure simply because they're good. One of my favourites is Veeraswamy, now in its 93rd year and the oldest Indian restaurant in Britain. By constantly updating the menu to provide modern versions of authentic cooking, this grand old establishment maintains a glowing reputation that includes a Michelin star and cooking for The Queen.

From 15 May to 30 June Veeraswamy presents Seafood Showcase with dishes from the coastal states of southern India. It is a rare opportunity to try this light, delicious cooking, perfect for warm weather. Start with a selection of Baked Oysters in a fragrant sauce of tandoori spices, mellow Kashmiri chilli and turmeric under a crisp gratiné topping. Seafood Moilee is a fish curry with red mullet, prawns and mussels in a rich coconut-based sauce enlivened with tamarind and curry leaf. Subtly-flavoured Bhapa Maach from Kolkata is sea bass marinated with yoghurt and Bengal limes, steamed in banana leaves and served with ribbons of cucumber. More assertive flavours are found in Lobster Curry from the Malabar Coast with coconut and green mango or the rice-led biryani from Kerala with prawns, cashew nuts, saffron, sultanas and mint. Finally don't miss the Pineapple Curry with mustard seeds, coconut sauce and punchy green chillis. Unmissable desserts include the chocolate ganache with chilli and lime crème topped with gold leaf, or refreshing coconut and lemongrass pannacotta with fruit salsa.

The full menu at Veeraswamy is also available during the Seafood Showcase and you can try meat-based royal heritage dishes such as Patiala Raan (slow-cooked lamb) or the legendary Roghan Josh from Kashmir. Diners are often puzzled by what to drink with Indian food but no such problems here. There are imaginative cocktails (alcoholic and not) along with a superb wine list with many by the glass. White wines include well-known names like chablis, alberino and gewürztraminer plus on-trend organic fiano from Italy while red wines range from Spain, Italy, and fine wine makers in France.

Situated on the first floor of a distinguished building on Regent Street, Veeraswamy is a spacious, airy room bathed in natural light. The interior mixes luxury and historic detail with grand chandeliers, colourful lights, pierced screens, smart modern furniture, a cosy cocktail bar and a witty assembly of decorative traditional turbans. It's chic and elegant, but also fun. I guarantee you'll be back. r

99 Regent Street W1B 4RS; 020 7734 1401; veeraswamy.com

Veeraswamy's elegant interior

PHOTOS: PETER KOCIHA

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DESIGN

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IN THE NAUGHTY CORNER

The well-known and highly glamorous sisters, Lydia and Irene Forte, daughters of hotel empire boss Rocco Forte, have let their design eyes loose on the newly renovated and iconic Brown's Hotel in Mayfair. The Donovan Bar has recently reopened with a new menu and an equally impressive new design of particularly millenial influence. The redesign has been done with glamour in mind, and inspiration has been taken from 1960s photographer Terence Donovan. You can find some of his most famous and iconic images on display in the so-called naughty corner of the swanky bar. I expect there will be many an Instagrammer flocking here...

Albemarle Street, Mayfair W1S 4BP; roccofortehotels.com

HOLISTIC HOME

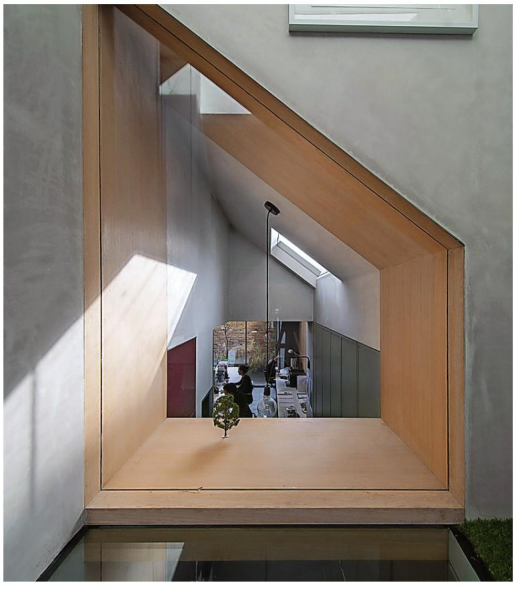
Studio McLeod have created a home in Kilburn centered around a wellbeing approach to architecture

Words GEORGINA BLASKEY

An unassuming door on Kilburn Lane does a grand job of disguising the wonder that lies within. At ease among the newsagents, bakery, laundrette and cafe, the frosted glass front exhibits a small logo with no words, a secret signal to those who know what to look for that they've found something special. Beyond the door works the close-knit team that make up Studio McLeod, a practice recognised as one of the UK's leading architects for innovative residential architecture. But it's not just a place of work – inside lives founder Duncan McLeod, his wife, set designer Lyndsay Milne McLeod, and their three-year-old son Oban.

This small property boasts big architectural points with innovative design from McLeod and imaginative styling tricks from Lyndsay, drawing on their individual areas of expertise and their joint vision of what the space could achieve. 'Lyndsay bought the property ten years ago. We spent all our free time from 2004 working on the house, explains McLeod. 'From 2010, my office was located in the front bedroom and as my professional team grew, they got to see what it was like on a building project first hand!' By the end of December 2014 the project was complete and the couple found themselves expecting a baby, the most serious deadline when it comes to renovating. 'It was a good project for me to learn how to put a building together,' recalls McLeod.

PICTURE OF THE FAMILY BY DAVID BUTLER PHOTOGRAPHY LTD; EXTERIOR PHOTO BY STUDIO MCLEOD; LANDING IMAGE BY LAWRENCE CARLOS



Studio McLeod focuses on a wellbeing approach to architecture and this is greatly emphasised when meeting potential clients of the first time. 'When I decided to set up on my own I wanted to work on new build residential work which serves the people who will inhabit it. Every client is different and I have enjoyed the people I've met as much as creating a space for them.' To understand what's special about each person, how they live and what makes them happy, the practice has developed The Perfect Day questions. 'During an Open Studio session we took part in, we wanted to show people how we work and that we could design their dream home in 30 minutes,' explains McLeod. 'Architects need to listen and not colour what clients are telling them before they ▸

Duncan McLeod and his wife, Lyndsay Milne McLeod with their son

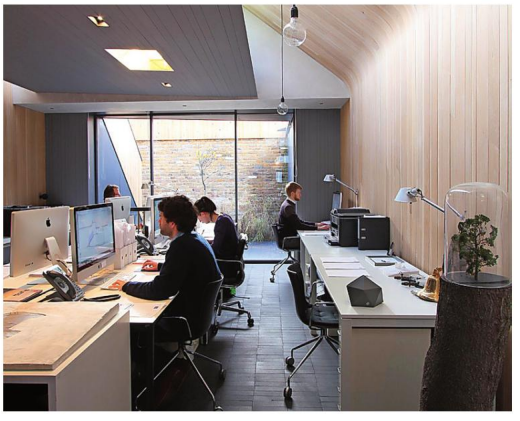
respond. We always start by asking people a series of questions that describe their perfect day – who they're with, what kind of building it is (a cabin, a stone cottage, a beach house…), what time of day it is, where in the house they are, what they're doing?' This creates a narrative for McLeod and his team, often producing a strong emotional reaction in their clients when they hear it read back to them.

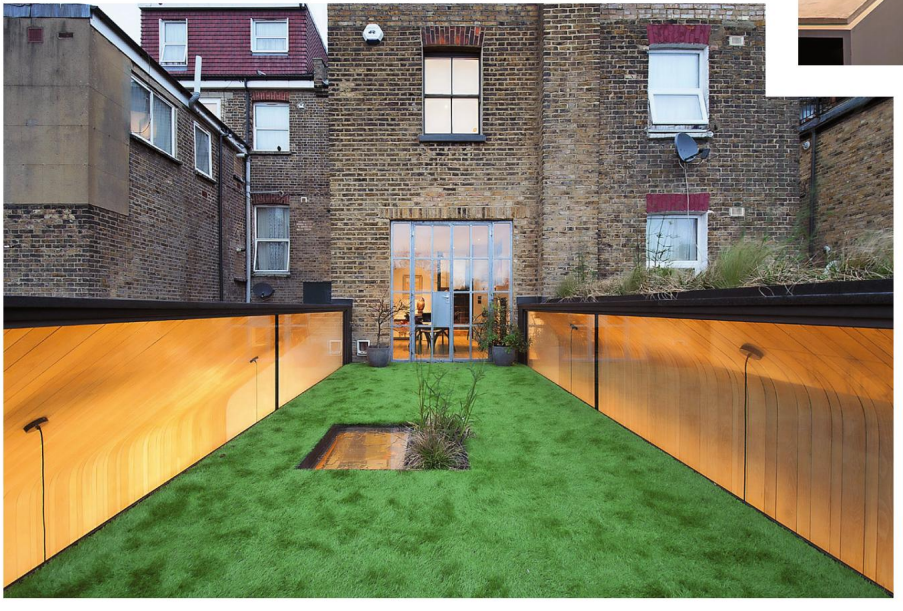
McLeod and Lyndsay have certainly followed their perfect day in their home, with nods to their joint passion for art and design and the natural world, an element keenly yet surprisingly present in this city home and business. They extended in to the old garden to build the studio and create an office that doesn't feel like an office. 'Our concept began with the woods, to create a cabin feel, so we used oak panels in different widths to remind us of a misty forest,' says McLeod, pointing to the carefully curved structure that bends up to the clerestory windows above. These help control the amount of light – and heat – that enters the studio and brings height and drama to the room. Floor-to-ceiling, panelled sliding doors provide storage and wall space to stick ideas and plans on to, and a working wood-burning stove adds another aesthetic to the space. 'We wanted to use wholesome, soulful materials – did you know timber can positively affect your blood pressure? A wooden floor gets better with age; we always try and find materials that don't add stress,' explains McLeod.

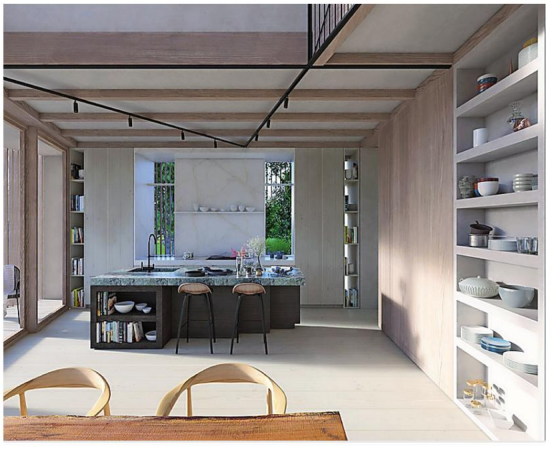
Low maintenance materials throughout the family's space above bring a sense of home to the traditional building with vintage furniture and original features sitting comfortably with more surprising features, such as a canoe stored on the roof or the fake grass on the stairs. The practices's mantra is 'There's always a way' so when the question came as to how to store McLeod's motorbike indoors without Lyndsay having to see it every day, the solution was unusual. 'It's a sliding staircase – it allows access to my bike when I need it and I hide it when I don't!'

Seeing possibilities rather than obstacles, creating design solutions and challenging existing limits have allowed Studio McLeod to create some of the most beautiful homes in modern architecture. With projects in Hampstead, Hammersmith and the wide open countryside beyond, the team have responded to some of the toughest briefs with imagination, sensitivity and flair. 'We always try and find out how people live and what makes them happy,' says McLeod with a smile. Simple!

studiomcleod.com; lmmstudio.com







STUDIO PHOTO AND GARDEN EXTERIOR BY LAWRENCE CARLOS; TOP PHOTO AND BOTTOM TWO IMAGES OF ORI HOUSE AND EGLINGTON BY EKKIST

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FIT FOR ROYALTY

Kensington Palace Pavilion shows that temporary doesn't have to mean makeshift as it opens while the Orangery undergoes essential conservation work

Words FAY WATSON

PHOTOS BY HOLLY CLARK PHOTOGRAPHY

The birth place of Queen Victoria, the London residence of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, and the future abode of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle – there is little doubt that Kensington Palace is absolutely integral to the perception and the history of the royal family today.

And it's also undeniable that each member has shaped the Palace throughout its history. One of the biggest physical legacies is the Orangery, which was introduced by Queen Anne in 1704 when she decided that the royal residence needed a greenhouse to care for her beloved citrus trees during the winter months.

Thought to be designed in a baroque style by Nicholas Hawksmoor, the area served her as an elegant conservatory, as well as a lavish spot to hold parties during her seven year reign.

In the centuries since its initial build, it has undergone a number of alterations from architects like Sir John Vanbrugh and December 2017 saw the historic conservatory begin three years of essential conservation work. This left the Palace with the challenge of creating a new events space that reflected the grandeur of the surroundings – no mean feat given that it was to be a temporary structure.

'Everyone came to the Orangery, it's iconic, and they expect a certain level,' Alex Donnelly-Palmer, Events and Operations Manager at Kensington Palace, tells me. 'It's on the grounds of Kensington Palace, so we couldn't just put up a tent.'

Kensington Palace Pavilion, the resulting glass fronted pavilion, officially opened in March after two years of planning and a 30 day build by the Arena Group. It is a 1,800sqm structure made up of two internal areas – a café during the day or reception space for special events in the evenings, and a larger area used for sit down dinner events. With a specially-built curved roof, the overall capacity allows for 800 standing or 300 seated guests.

Donnelly-Palmer says: 'Everyone refers to it as a marquee, but it's much more than that. Inside it had to feel the grandeur of where it was, outside it's hard to disguise it being a marquee structure, but we're going to try and put some stuff on it to make it look less [like a] marquee.

'Inside we've tried to recreate the Orangery design. We've kept it very plain so events can come in and basically do what they want. It's a blank canvas for events, but we've tried to keep it quite classical and make the walls interesting,' he adds.

'They've all got wooden panelling all the way around. It's not just a structure, it's not just wooden walls painted, it looks a little bit more impressive.'

One benefit of being free from historical surroundings is that it allows the team to be much more creative. For instance, in the Orangery any red foods or drinks that could stain the original marble floor were not allowed.

'Because it's not historical a lot of our rules have disappeared,' Donnelly-Palmer says. 'So berries and tomatoes and all of those kind of things, which were absolutely no go in the state apartments or The Orangery. We feel a bit weird saying it, but it's like "yes do it".'

The new structure is also better catered to the numerous awards ceremonies and charity galas that the space is requested to put on each year as it's wider than the very long and thin Orangery.

As a living royal residence, only 65 events can be held in the Pavilion each year, but it also undertakes other functions inherited from the Orangery of breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea every day. And, any income from the events at the space is donated to the Historic Royal Palaces' charitable cause, which reinvests in conserving the original elegant buildings.

The team know that the Pavilion cannot hold the same history of the Orangery, but a great deal of time and care has been put into maintaining the classic structure while also giving it a contemporary edge.

We're nodding to history, but also bringing it into the new millennium

'We've got a bit of glass out the front which brings the modern twist to it,' Donnelly-Palmer explains. 'We're not saying that we're in the 17th century, we know we're not.

'We've brought it up to date, but it's a hint to where we are and you've got the Palace literally metres away from you. We're nodding to history, but also bringing it into the new millennium.' r

Kensington Palace Pavilion is open from 10am to 6pm daily and is available to hire for events; hrp.org.uk/kensington-palace

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This month's Resident magazine is full of inspiring ideas to welcome summer into your styling. Here are a few highlights - great value, stylish and bang on trend. Everything you'd expect from your Resident recommendations. It's so easy to *make it yours!*

Miniature French-inspired natural woven basket with pom pom styling

Cactus salt and pepper shakers - fun tableware for your summer dining

Liz Earle's cult beauty product in a special limited edition

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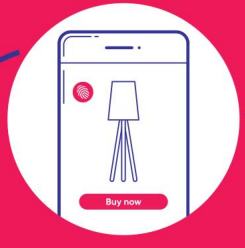

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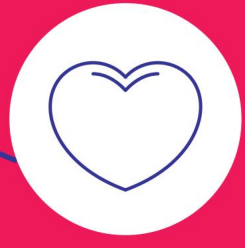

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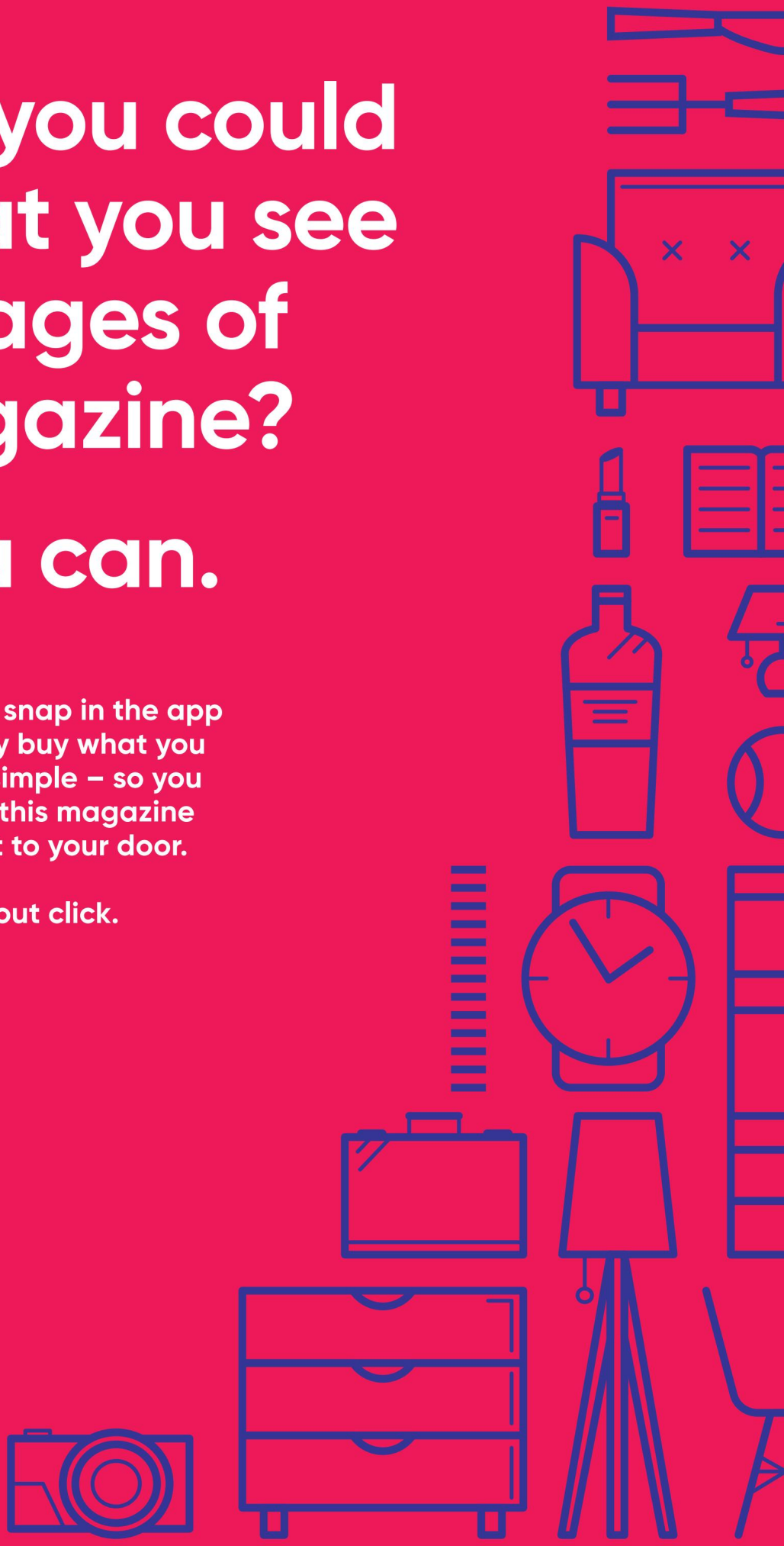

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VIVA MEXICANA

Be inspired by the V&A's blockbuster exhibition on Frida Kahlo to bring some Central American style into your home

Story KARA O'REILLY

Razzle pouffe, £130, frenchbedroom company.co.uk

Saguaro cactus set of six stacking glasses by Maiden, £48, trouva.com

Keswick mottled enamel water pitcher, £28, gardentrading.co.uk

Calavera Huichol Mexican skull, £165, rume.co.uk

Distressed 36-drawer wooden cabinet, £1,468, outthereinteriors.com

Frida print by Kris Tate, from £19.95, eastendprints.co.uk

Bohemian hammock, £119, cuckooland.com

Pompom lampshade in Folklorico skulls, £38, lovefrankie.com

Raffia plate, £35, postcardshome.co.uk

Boho large cups, £4.50 for 12, talkingtables.co.uk

Embroidered sofa, £1,799, iansnow.com

Cactus salt and pepper pots by Klevering, £17.50, printerandtailor.com

Jambi garden lounge chair, £195, habitat.co.uk

Kaleb easy-fit pendant, £118, darlighting.co.uk

Shyrdak Rug (no 1850), £1,550, feltrugs.co.uk

Mexicana cushion, £39, grahamandgreen.co.uk

Sugar skull cushion by George Home, £6, asda.com

Pajaki hanging decoration, £75, rajtentclub.com

Retro chic cotton wall hanging, £30, bhs.com

Mariachi candle holder, £22, okla.co.uk

Frida Kahlo bamboo curtain, £75, okla.co.uk

Jardin Suspendu woven plant stands, £696 for set of 4, moroso.it

Storage basket, £85, V&A shop (vam.ac.uk)

A by Amara Galley throw, £90, amara.com

Fiesta food cover, £6, sainsburys.co.uk

House by John Lewis Salsa outdoor table, £79, johnlewis.com

Frida Kahlo stainless-steel mug, £16.99, iansnow.com

Recycled painted tin can, from £14.50, re-foundobjects.com

Frida Kahlo ceramic pot, £35, plumo.com

Corona tray, £15, otomi.co.uk

Rylah Wing Chair, from £1,650, arumfellow.com

Ceramic cactus vases, £25 each, debehams.com

DESIGNS *for* LIFE

What trends are emerging in 2018 in kitchen design? Following a recent visit to Milan, Roundhouse Design has curated the latest looks and colours...

Words JULIA SUGDEN

Broken plan
A broken plan design is where the space is physically divided by, for example, changes to floor levels or materials, glass partitions, partial walls, shelving, bookcases, storage or furniture. The idea is that with subtle divisions you can keep the sense of space that you get with an open plan layout, but that there are areas where you can retain your own space away from the rest of the family. With a layout like this it is even more important to maintain cohesion in your kitchen design.

Metallics
Metal wrapped doors and panels and textured surfaces for cabinetry in the kitchen are an emerging trend. Finishes like metal wraps are reflective and rich, with depth and texture, and used with matt or gloss lacquers, beautiful book matched veneers or textured finishes they can create a layered effect. Other glamorous metallic finishes include Burnishes Copper and Bronze, and Hammered Silver, which gives a more textured look.

Built in
With the trend toward open living spaces, be they open plan or broken plan, the lines are often blurred between living, cooking and dining areas. Built in means having furniture in the living space, which echoes that of your kitchen. With a bespoke design you can have audio-visual furniture, for example, or shelf units that are made in the same materials in the same style as your kitchen, thereby maintaining a coherent overall design.

Texture contrast
Matt and high gloss lacquers in kitchens will always be popular, but highly textured finishes like rough sawn oak ply, deeply riven river-washed finish and beautiful bleached wood are growing more popular. Textures can be used in unusual combinations with simple hand painted matt lacquer and gorgeous natural stone worksurfaces or beautiful polished concrete that acquires its own patina with age.

Stop Press... Direct from Milan
Following a recent visit to the influential Milan Salone di Mobile, the very latest trends emerging include; wood becoming blonder and beautifully finished, often used for open storage for curated displays. Colours are becoming softer and paler with lots of greys, but also peach, pink, green. Greenery was evident everywhere, so houseplants are perhaps having a revival. Generally, furniture was less dark but lighter, sophisticated and crafted, with the industrial luxe look more pared down.

Whatever trend floats your boat, with judicious thought and planning and the help of a good designer, you can create a stunning kitchen that will last the test of time.

Roundhouse kitchens start at £35,000. Roundhouse, 11 Wigmore Street W1U 1PE; 020 7297 6220; roundhousedesign.com

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AL FRESCO LIVING

If you have plenty of space, make the most of it by dividing up your garden into different zones for relaxing, eating, entertaining and playing, as Harrington Porter did with this multi-use family garden. The design includes remote control lighting and a gas fire pit.

Garden projects, from £20,000, harringtonporterdesign.com

IT'S GREAT OUTDOORS

Check out these creations by some of the capital's best garden designers for inspiration for your own outdoor space

Story KARA O'REILLY

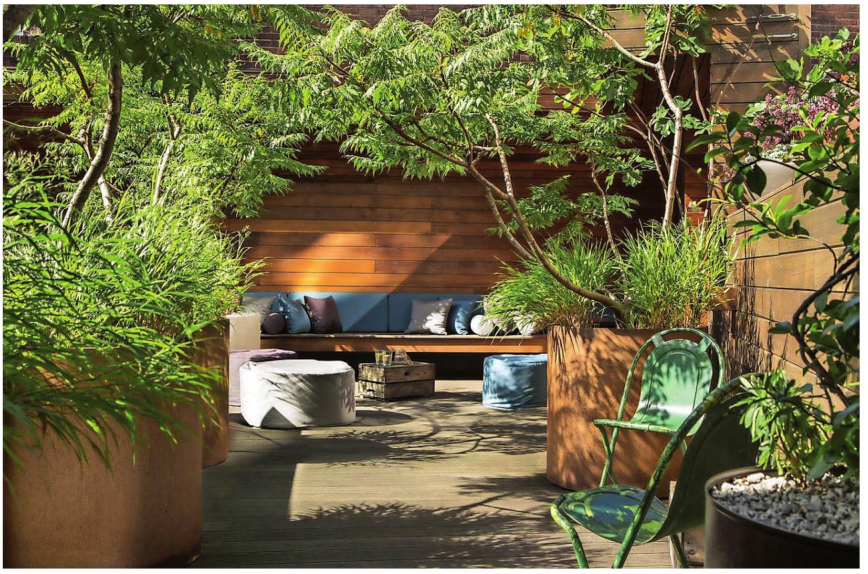

PHOTO: MISCHA HALLER

Pot luck

Adolfo Harrison chose to clad this secluded courtyard garden in Western Red Cedar – picking up the tones of the wood in the over-scaled containers made from Corten steel. These are large enough to support these attractive large shrubs (Stag's horn sumach) with an under planting of Bunchgrass.

Garden projects, from £35,000, adolfoharrison.com

FIRE PLACE

Creating a focal point around which you build a garden design is key. This can take the form of a sculpture, water feature, dramatic plant, or, as here, an outdoor fireplace. The benefit of choosing the latter is that it allows you to create a chic outdoor sitting room in a city garden.

Bonfire made-to-measure outdoor fireplace, from £3,660, bd-designs.co.uk

Squaring up

This stunning symmetrical design by Peter Reader and Belderbos Landscapes uses hard landscaping, a contemporary water feature and generous beds filled with meadow-style planting to break up a standard rectangular garden into a series of attractive pockets – appealing to both people and wildlife.

Garden projects, from £18,000, belderbos.co.uk

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SOUTH CIRCULAR

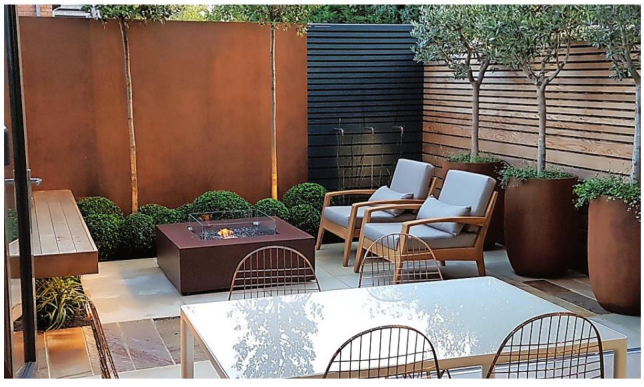
In this Blackheath garden, designer Catherine Clancy has chosen a circular motif to give her design coherence and interest. Circles of hardwood decking are outlined with contrasting paving, while sweeping, curved raised beds continue the theme.

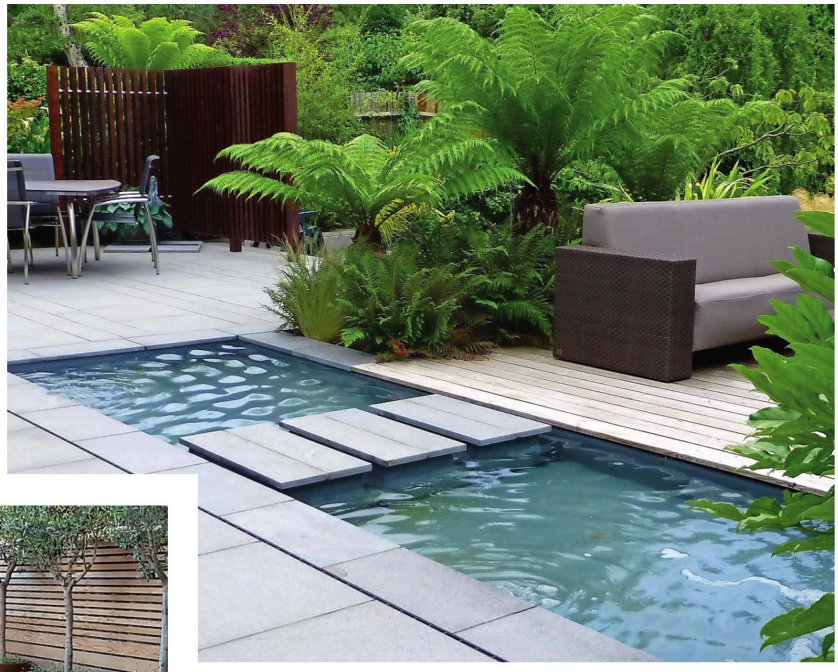
Garden projects, from £15,000, catherineclancy.com

Chic courtyard

This clever design by Tony Woods of Garden Club London shows how to make the most of even the tiniest outdoor space. A judicious edit of easy-care plants arranged in practical containers and slim beds adds the all-important green element. While hard landscaping using varied materials in a tonal palette of natural browns, such as the Corten panel and cedar fence, adds textural interest.

Garden projects, from £25,000, gardenclublondon.co.uk





TROPICAL TERRACE

Denise Cadwallader selected hardy tree ferns to give evergreen structure to the planting scheme for this contemporary terrace. An attractive pool adds to the sense of a lush oasis.

Garden projects, from £20,000, garden-arts.com

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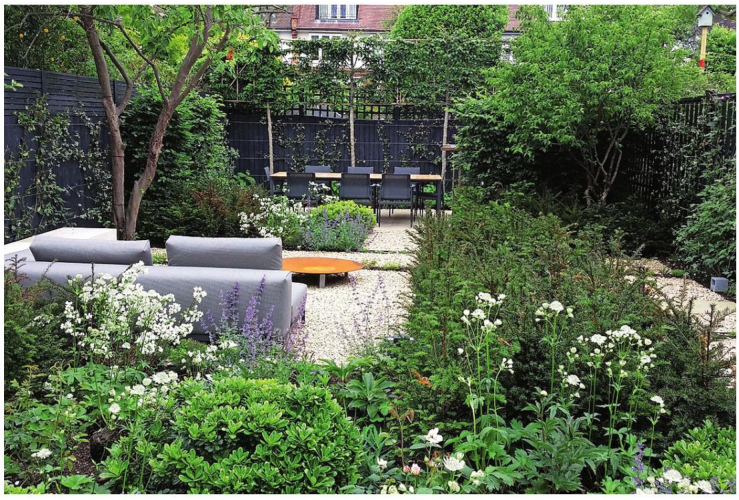
GOING GREEN

Box balls and topiary red robins echo the theme of inter-linking circular structures that Kate Gould introduced into this garden with her choice of paving, camomile lawns and neatly clipped box hedging. Generous deep borders allow for mixed herbaceous planting that gives interest year-round.
Garden projects, prices on request, kategouldgardens.com

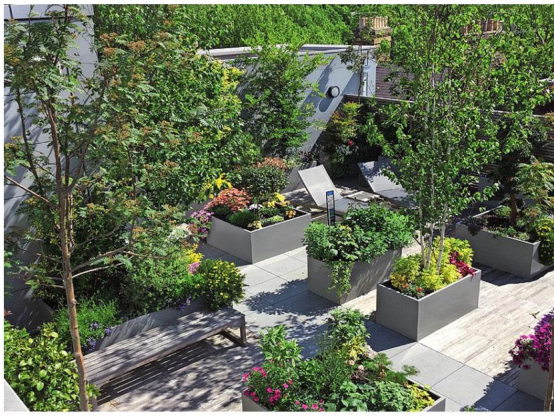


Planting plan

Sometimes a lawn is more trouble than it's worth in a city garden but, as this stunning design by Charlotte Rowe demonstrates, if you focus instead on the planting, you can end up with a luscious, green space anyway. Choose an edited colour palette – here, silvers, whites and purples – to give coherence to your plant choices.
Garden projects, from £50,000, charlotterowe.com

Building blocks

This exciting roof terrace by Modular shows just how far you can take a design based on container gardening. The benefits of planting in containers means you can create mini eco-systems to suit different plants' needs, allowing for more flexibility in your choice of plants. They are also an effective way to screen or demarcate different areas, plus can also be moved around if needed.
Garden projects, from £450 per sq m, modular.london



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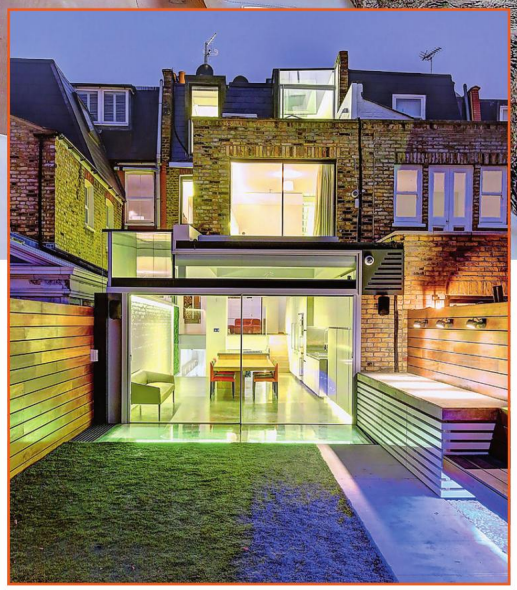

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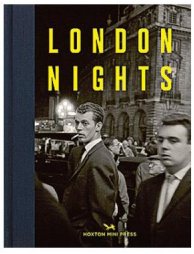
HOMES INSIDER

Kara O'Reilly rounds up the latest in interiors

KARA'S *choice*

On the town

London Nights, the latest imprint from Hoxton Mini Press, is the epitome of the type of book you want to grace your coffee table. It's a beautiful volume of night-time images of London taken from the late Victorian period through to the present day. From nightlife reportage to architectural shots, the images are so evocative, I am seriously tempted to break up a volume and frame a selection of them to create an 'homage to London' picture wall. It accompanies an exhibition at The Museum of London (running until 11 November).



The Resident readers can get 10% off the RRP of £19.95 by using the code NIGHTS10 at hoxtonminipress.com

Person of interest

RHONDA DRAKEFORD

Rhonda Drakeford co-founded Darkroom as a boutique shopping destination back in 2009 and it quickly became a key player on London's contemporary design scene. Last year she reinvented the business as an e-tailer to focus on her own-brand designs and collaborations with other specialists in their fields. Influenced by key modernist design movements such as Bauhaus, De Stijl and Memphis, her bold, graphic designs feature block colour and block prints, on products as diverse as tiles, planters and kitchen textiles. Her distinctive aesthetic has gained her a cult following and her latest project is Vitti, a range of seven pieces with Made.com – snap it up before it sells out.

Play Pot planters, £90 each, darkroomlondon.com.
Vitti collection, from £15 for a cushion, made.com

HOT OFF THE PRESS

Pattern queen

The Fashion and Textile Museum is one of those lovely specialist museums that London excels at. Its exhibition for the summer months is a celebration of the work of Orla Kiely – the designer who has been putting her distinctive spin on 1960s- and 1970s-influenced prints for more than 20 years. While she began her career designing handbags, over the years her empire has expanded to encompass all areas of fashion, as well as her hugely popular ranges of home essentials, including kitchenalia, textiles and wallpaper. Take a look, be inspired and while you are there, pick up some limited-edition pieces in the brilliant shop. Opens 25 May (ftmlondon.org).

See her current collection at orlakiely.com. Early bird cushion, £35; Retro flower 1L storage jar, £25, both johnlewis.com

Mini Trend
Swiss cheese plant designs

Large framed tropical print, £95, frenchconnection.com

Tropical leaf melamine tray, £14.95, audenza.com

Jungle leaf hooks, £85, grahamandgreen.co.uk

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LIFESTYLE

A BIG CELEBRATION

Notting Hill's ethical jewellery designer Pippa Small is celebrating her 10th anniversary working with arts charity Turquoise Mountain. The organisation was founded by HRH The Prince of Wales to invest in historic areas and traditional crafts in Afghanistan and Myanmar, providing jobs, skills and pride. In the past decade, Small has sold over 4,600 pieces of jewellery crafted by the men and women of Turquoise Mountain. This has allowed for the creation of 11 independently supported jewellery businesses in Afghanistan employing 68 artisans, as well as the training and employment of 150 artisans in Myanmar alone.

201 Westbourne Grove W11 2SB; pippasmall.com

GRACE'S WORLD

Mayfair business woman Grace Kennedy tells us all about how her career as an entertainer paved the way to opening her own travel events business

Words FAY WATSON

While it may not seem a natural partnership, Grace Kennedy explains to me that, for her, show business and events planning go hand in hand. The singer, entertainer and managing director says that it was her performing career that inspired her to start her own events business 20 years ago.

PHOTOS BY DARREN PAUL PHOTOGRAPHY

'The experiences that I've had, I want to bring them into my business,' she tells me. 'There's nobody out there in my industry that's ever gone into the events side, the wedding side, on a luxury level. What I'm trying to explain to my clients is I've been there, I've had the luxury, so what I'm trying to do is give that back.'

Kennedy rose to stardom after winning talent show *Opportunity Knocks* before going on to perform at The Royal Variety Show and host her own BBC television show, *The Grace Kennedy Show*, in the early 1980s.

Her early success put her in contact with people like Aretha Franklin and Sammy Davis, Jr. (who she describes once cooked

her and his wife an amazing meal of scallops). 'These wonderful celebrities took me under their wing and tried to guide me and say this is what you should do – and it was just so lovely,' she says.

But one of the most important things that the business allowed her was to travel the world. And when she did, she did it in luxury. She tells me of one memorable journey being whisked away to Dubai by Toyota on a private jet. 'By the time I went to perform I was feeling fantastic because I'd had that lovely feeling – I was thinking pinch me, you know?' she laughs. 'That's what I want to give to my clients.'

All of this inspired her to launch a new branch to her Mayfair-based business at the end of last year – the Luxurious Destination Collection. This side of the business works with clients on a bespoke basis to create memorable holidays and honeymoons to places like Bali, the Maldives and the Bahamas. Since its launch, Kennedy has already forged partnerships with venues including Blenheim Palace in Oxford, the Mandarin Oriental in Knightsbridge and the Royal Mansour in Marrakech.

In the wedding business and in the event business, you've got to keep inventing things

The small team work on North Audley Street, which she describes as the perfect destination for her business. 'It's luxurious, you've got fabulous Mount Street that I love, Scott's, [there are] amazing buildings in Mayfair and the people are lovely,' she enthuses. 'I'm really happy being in Mayfair.'

While it's going well so far, Kennedy is aware that you have to be constantly adapting to maintain the edge in the luxury business.

'I find in the wedding business and in the event business, you've got to keep inventing things,' she explains. 'You can't stay in one genre, you've got to keep moving things around.'

So part of her business plan has been to try and include as many unique experiences as possible. From cooking classes to specialist massages and spa treatments, she tries to plan things for couples to keep the romance alive.

'I'm a great believer that if you're married and you want to keep things going, you've got to keep it alive,' she says. 'You've got to care for each other, love each other, you're good friends.'

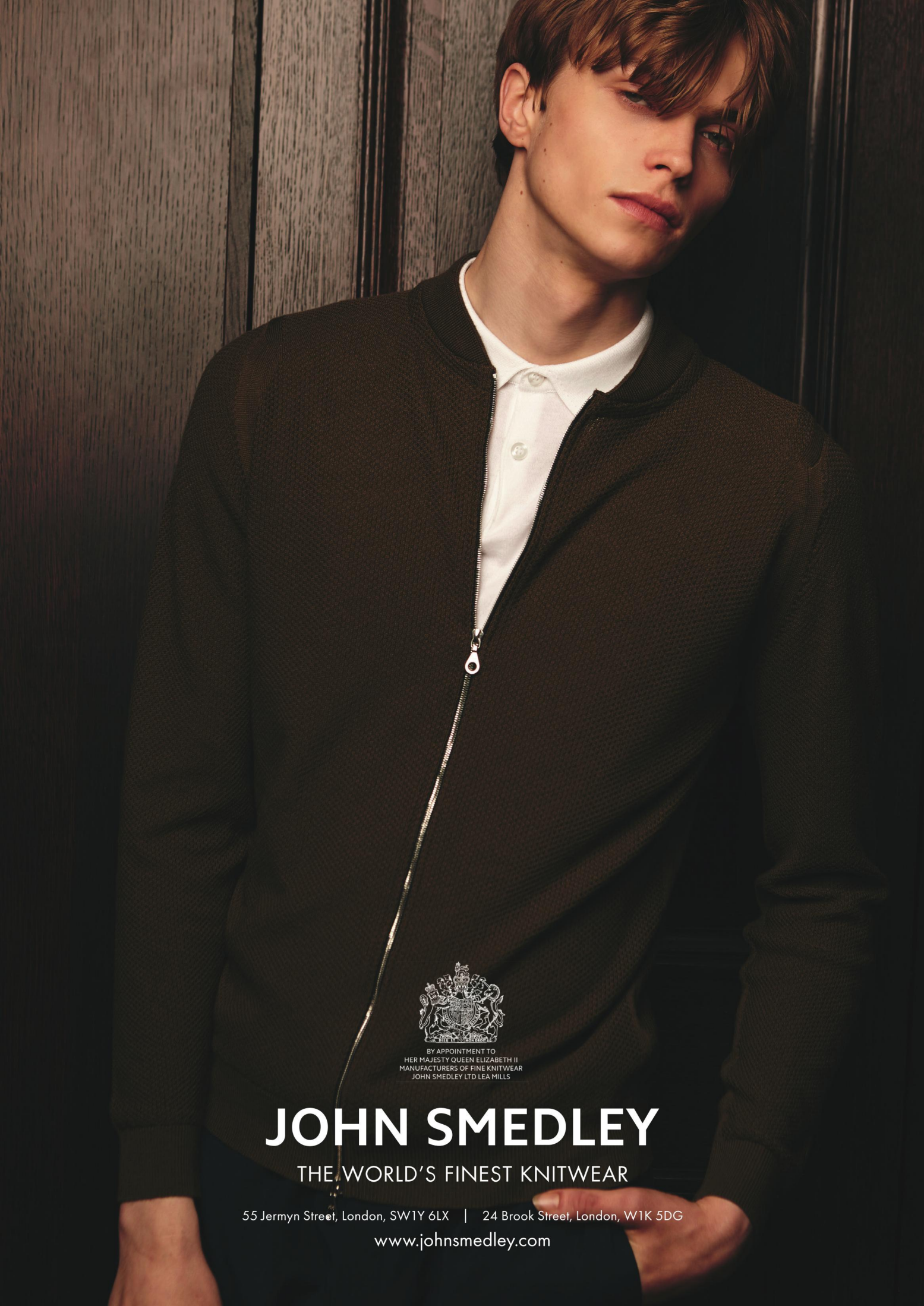
As she tells me about her work and her career, it's clear that Kennedy's success has come from a lot of hard work since she began professional work at just 17 years of age. 'Some of it is luck, some of it is your talent,' she tells me. 'But grafting is the main thing in any business. Grafting – I would rehearse and rehearse, every step, every line. And it's the same as what I do now. I organise an event I have to go over it and over it.'

I wonder if the parallels stop there or whether she feels the same rush performing as organising an event? 'All the time – it's not nerves, you want to get it right. And you want the client at the end of the day to say "wow, thank you so much".

'I'm in the right business now, I'm doing something that I love and I'm really passionate about it,' she adds. 'I get to work with some wonderful people and also some great venues.'

And, with planned partnerships with opera houses and venues across the world lined up this year, it certainly seems that there's no stopping her. r

gracekennedyevents.com/destinations-collection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SLEEVE NOTES

Jacques Vert has pulled together a collection of wearable occasionwear and smart separates this season that are well worth taking a look at. There's something in the collection that should suit everyone, from a full length beaded sleeveless gown to a cool trouser and top combo. They've also given some thought to the summer sleeve dilemma: for those who don't like showing their arms there are chiffon sleeves, slit sleeves, short ruffled sleeves and co-ordinating cover ups like this long jacket, £199, worn with an embellished dress, £229. jacques-vert.co.uk

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BAG THIS

Vintage cravats and British Art Deco architectural details are just a couple of the influences cited by designer Otis Batterbee. Could we be straying elegantly into Bertie Wooster territory? Certainly the Art Deco influence is apparent in these handsome make-up bags from the new collection launched recently at John Lewis.

Batterbee's quest to kit us out with the finest accessories for travel and everyday life has led to a collection of make-up bags and vanity cases. The signature wash bags have already won legions of fans, including Bryan Ferry and Florence Welch (both known for their inimitable style).

Pictured are Downshire Black Deco bags, priced from £20, johnlewis.com

WORDS: JANET REEDER

RUBY SLIPPERS

Just what you need to get you somewhere over the rainbow: ruby slippers. These are from the new, rather gorgeous range from Mint Velvet, featuring flats, espadrilles and these fringed heels. They'll look great with your cotton sundress and fabulous with black and white. You'll wear them at weddings, garden parties and the races, and they're sure to cheer you up on dull days.

Sara heels, £139, mintvelvet.co.uk

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FEELING SLEEPY...

If it wasn't enough being sleep-deprived, we are now being told that those of us who don't regularly get seven or eight hours are risking our health. Something else to keep us awake at night. I'm rather sceptical of sleep cures, but I have found Neom's Perfect Night's Sleep Face Oil to be surprisingly effective. First you do a little deep breathing, inhaling the delicious fragrance of this vitamin packed almond oil, then you pat it over your face and sink back and relax. Obviously, I can't claim that this would work for everybody, but if you buy it and it doesn't work, at least your skin can reap the benefits of a face oil that not only feels luxurious, but smells delicious too.

£42, neomorganics.com

FLOWER POWER

Summer is embodied in Jo Malone's gorgeous new Jasmine Sambac and Marigold Cologne Intense. Jasmin Sambac is the most precious jasmine of all and combined with vibrant marigold and exotic ylang ylang, enveloped by the warmth of vanilla and amber, it's totally entrancing.
100ml Cologne, £115, jomalone.com

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From left to right:
New gen Tri Balm, £46, *francesprescott.com*
Limited edition Liz Earle Cleanse and Polish Mimosa and Angelica, *£23.50, uk.lizearle.com*
Prebiotic Gallinée Cleansing bar, £9.50, *gallinee.com*

UBER LUXE

White Caviar Crème Extraordinaire is the uber luxurious new product from skincare pioneers La Prairie. The research that has gone into its production is amazing. Over 50,000 ingredients have been screened and Lumidose has been created to not only illuminate the skin, but does what no other cream has managed so far and that is banish brown spots. A single dose twice a day is all that is required and if you are a La Prairie devotee you can apply it over your White Caviar Illuminating Clarifying lotion, White Caviar Illuminating Pearl Infusion and Illuminating Eye Cream for optimum effect.

La Prairie White Caviar Crème Extraordinaire, £519, laprairie.co.uk

WORDS: JANET REEDER

PROVENÇAL *Life*

From a glass of sun-soaked rosé to a game of pétanque in the garden, discover why life is that bit better in Provence...

Words FAY WATSON

Sitting on my private terrace in Provence, looking over the Mount Ventoux, rolling vineyards and olive groves, I couldn't help but feel inspired by the landscape and feeling of tranquillity it eludes. It is obvious why so many painters, artists and novelists have all been bewitched by the region over the years.

Situated in the south east of France, Provence is known for its lavender, wine and sun, and as we headed an hour north of Marseille Airport to the small commune of Crillon le Brave, it's clear it has this in abundance.

Our drive led us up to the hilly village, which can trace its history right back to the Roman era. Despite suffering decline in the world wars, since the 1970s the area has been built up and placed back on the map, thanks in no small part to the hilltop escape of Hotel Crillon le Brave.

The luxurious hotel has taken over a number of houses in the commune since 1989, refurbishing, redesigning and injecting some luxury into them. Now, made up of 36 rooms in eight buildings, most of which used to be family homes, the hotel is truly at the heart of the village.

And that heart lives on in the buildings. My room in Maison Soudain, named after the village painter Marc Soudain, was slightly tucked away from the rest of the hotel. Designed to retain the history of its features, the 'room' was actually split over three with a living room full of cultural books and antique plates, a beautiful modern bathroom with a freestanding bath, and a double bedroom, containing one of the most comfortable beds I have ever laid my head on.

But, as I alluded to earlier, the *pièce de résistance* was the small private terrace where you could look over the whole region. And waking up each morning to such a sight seems well worth an investment in a mountain-view.

Part of the charm of the hotel being built around the existing village structure is how quintessentially in keeping with village life it feels, which we indulged in as we played a game of

BOTTOM LEFT PHOTO BY IRIS LE GARS; OTHER PHOTOS BY CAMILLE MOIRENC

pétanque into the balmy twilight hours of our first night. While my team was robbed of our initial winning streak (I'm still not ready to talk about it), wiling away the hours enjoying a cold glass of Pastis, you can feel any residual stress of the week streaming off you.

Another of the many things that the region is most famous for is its cycling routes, notably the steep climb of Mount Ventoux, which is notorious amongst Tour de France enthusiasts. I must admit we didn't attempt the mountainous climb during our short stay, but our cycle to the nearby quarry for a picnic did lead to some shaky legs.

And the physical activity makes a great excuse to sample the hotel's luxurious spa treatments at the Spa des Écuries. Set up in a former stable, it offers a selection of rustic rooms with heated massage beds where I was lucky enough to sample one of the newest treatments of a bespoke massage.

The food during our stay was absolutely glorious. On our first night we were treated to the fare from the Bistrot 40K, where all the ingredients are sourced from within 40 kilometres of Crillon le Brave. On the final night we tasted the upmarket dining option of Restaurant Jérôme Blanchet, with a *Menu de Saison* of starter, main, cheese and dessert, which is hard to pick a favourite from (although as a self-confessed cheese-o-holic, choosing a selection from a tray as big as our table was a memorable moment).

Of course, when you think of Provence, you'd be lying if you weren't thinking about wine (or is that just me?). The staff at the hotel really know their *vin* so you'd do well to take advantage of the fantastic wine tasting class with the knowledgeable Benoit, who is full of stories behind the beverages.

If what you're itching for is to explore the area, within an hour of the hotel by car is the nearby L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue market, where we finished our trip. Known across Europe for its antiques stalls woven among the streets and streams of the town, it is well worth a visit if you have the chance.

Hotel Crillon le Brave is the perfect spot for couples on a romantic escape, just as it is for cyclists looking for a bit of luxury after their gruelling descents.

From that first sip of rosé, the stress of London will fall off your shoulders

So if an escape from reality is what you're after, then I'd almost guarantee that from that first sip of rosé, the stress of London will fall off your shoulders in no time.

crillonlebrave.com

TRIP NOTES

Nightly rates at Crillon le Brave are available from €340/£300 per room per night for two people sharing a classic room, including breakfast.

FATHER TIME

Unique ideas to spoil dad and make the most of 16 June

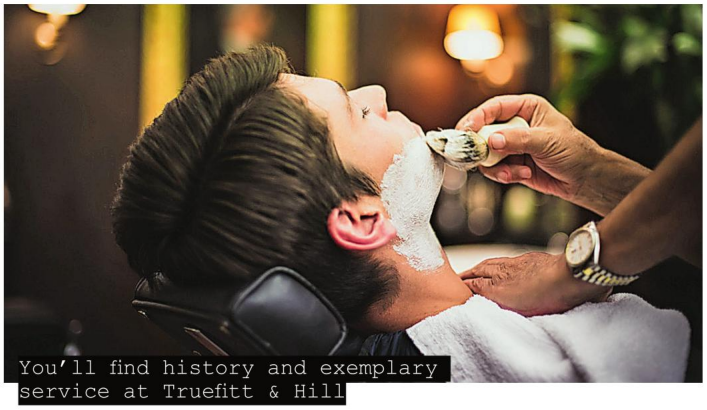
Words MARK KEBBLE

On the eve of Father's Day, Saturday 16 June, 2018, St James's Truefitt & Hill (truefittandhill.co.uk), the world's oldest barbershop, is offering the ultimate father and son experience, steeped in tradition, craftsmanship and sophistication.

Once inside the panelled barbershop at 71 St James's Street, the father and son will be offered a choice of drinks created by Dalmore – followed by a choice of four treatments, a traditional Hot Towel Wet Shave, a Haircut & Shampoo, a Beard Trim or a Facial.

After experiencing the skill and attention of one of the most talented barbers in Britain, they will then be given an exclusive goody bag full of Truefitt & Hill's timeless but contemporary British grooming products.

Afterwards, indulge in a delicious sharing platter of British delicacies at DUKES hotel and be sure to visit both Gieves & Hawkes, one of the oldest and most revered bespoke tailors in the world, and Deakin & Francis, Britain's oldest family jeweller, who have partnered with Truefitt & Hill to offer a one day only 25% discount.



You'll find history and exemplary service at Truefitt & Hill

Spaces are limited, so any son looking to treat his father to the pinnacle of British pampering, a gastronomic treat in one of London's most famous hotels plus the chance to enjoy a sizeable discount on a new suit or a pair of cufflinks should buy a set of tickets from Eventbrite for £175 asap.

It got us thinking about what else this wonderful area will be offering to ensure a special memory to mark Father's Day…

HURRAH FOR HARRODS

It's never easy coming up with something a little different for Father's Day. Pants and socks? Done it before. So Harrods' offerings are rather handy considering it's so broad and covers all manner of bases. Our picks for this year range from the proper treat – the Special Edition Tudor Black Bay Watch, £2,630 – to discovering the inner child in dad – Lego Millennium Falcon, £649. And, if you do need to go for pants and socks, you won't find many better than here.
harrods.com

Tudor Bay Watch

Lego Star Wars

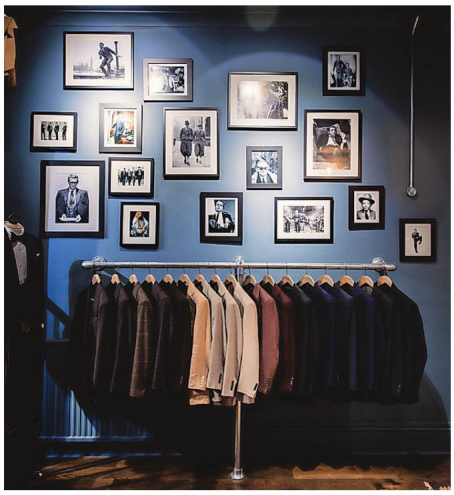
Square Mile sartorial sanctuary

Introducing Jack Davison Bespoke – a men's suit atelier and showroom nestled in the heart of the city by St Paul's Cathedral. Conceptualised and launched by entrepreneur duo Will Davison and Jack Stammers, the space offers premium men's tailoring with a custom-made service.

The duo wanted to offer something a little different to both the stalwarts of Savile Row and the traditional tailoring already available in the Square Mile. Acknowledging a lack of appropriate sartorial solutions in the City – an area rife with style conscious professionals – the pair opened their first atelier in January 2017 and have been servicing suit seekers ever since, from financiers to creatives and the fashion elite.

So why are they appearing here? Well, the experience is great for father and son, not only because it feels highly exclusive and luxurious, but because it's a great way for the pair to spend time together and have an intimate shopping experience under the guidance of the two founders. Father and son will walk away with something completely unique to them [fabrics, cut, quality], because there is no such thing as off the peg at Jack Davison Bespoke.

Jack Davison Bespoke services start from £975 (made to measure) and £1,895 (full bespoke). Bespoke shirts start at £190; jack-davison.co.uk

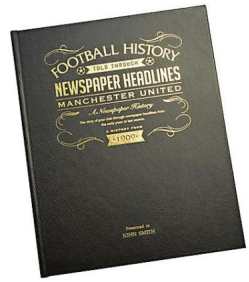


LINK UP

Encourage your dad to wear his heart on his sleeve with a set of personalised cufflinks. Not On The High Street offer some great options, from the classic to the quirky, and allow you to mark everything from his favourite hobby to that time he taught you to drive.
notonthehighstreet.co.uk

HEAD BACK TO THE START

Honour his favourite team with a personalised football book. Choose from over 60 teams and receive a bound collection of newspaper headlines charting the highs and the lows of their careers. From £39.99.
gettingpersonal.co.uk



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OPENING MINDS

Model-making, storytelling, drawing, city trails, Lego and a whole lot more... Here's how children can get involved with Open House

Words MARK KEBBLE

Open House Families is London's brand new festival of architecture exclusively for children and their families, designed to inspire the next generation of city-shapers. Over the weekend of 9-10 June (open-city.org.uk) families will explore and admire incredible buildings and places throughout London alongside architects, engineers and artists.

With more than 50 hands-on workshops including craft and design activities, engineering experiments, architectural tours and storytelling sessions, children will learn about their city and how it is created – and here's a selection of what to expect.

V&A
Drop-in Design: Extraordinary Structures
Sunday 10 June, 10.30am–5pm
Suitable for all ages
Become inspired by the V&A's wonderful shapes to design and build your own extraordinary 3D structure.

The Shard
Animating the Shard
Saturday 10 June, 9am–10am
Suitable for ages 7+
Scale the heights of your imagination by animating the Shard with the BFI with exclusive access only for families.
Visit bfi.org.uk to buy tickets

London Transport Museum
Whose Line is it Anyways?
Saturday 9 & Sunday 10 June, 11am–4pm
Drop-in: Activity is free with entry to the museum
Suitable for ages 3–12
From water buses to super speedy underground trains, share your transport favourites to shape our map of London.

RIBA
We Built This City
Saturday 9 June, 11am–4pm
Suitable for all ages
Head along for a mix of drop-in and timed workshops and activities throughout the day in the RIBA's splendid Art Deco building. You must register beforehand at architecture.com.

The National Gallery
Architecture and Us: family festival day
Saturday 9 June, 11am–4pm
Drop-in: Suitable for all ages
Build new and shared spaces, embark on a dancing journey, create an evolving landscape or discover a story about the city and its people.

The Royal Academy
Big Architecture Family Day
Sunday 10 June, 11am-4pm
Drop-in: Suitable for all ages
Join one of Open House's drawing tours, create a plaster cast of the new campus from your own miniature architectural model and help leading architects in creating ambitious Lego projects.

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PROPERTY

LIGHTING UP KENSINGTON

This is an exciting new build, state-of-the-art development positioned in the heart of Kensington, at 145 Kensington Church Street. Designed by SPPARC Architects, this eye-catching building consists of four apartments with an emphasis on natural light, lateral living and open views. The distinctive façade is mainly constructed of floor to ceiling glass and an interlocking stone isosceles triangle design, sure to become one of Kensington's most recognizable landmarks. A stand out is the spectacular duplex penthouse apartment at 145 Kensington Church Street with a wonderful roof terrace and breathtaking views across London, in particular towards Kensington Palace Gardens.

The Lantern, Kensington Church Street W8, £4,950,000. For more information contact Savills Kensington on 020 7535 3300 or Russell Simpson on 020 7225 0277

PROPERTY *NEWS*

Three stand out homes all with a story to tell

Feeling Grey

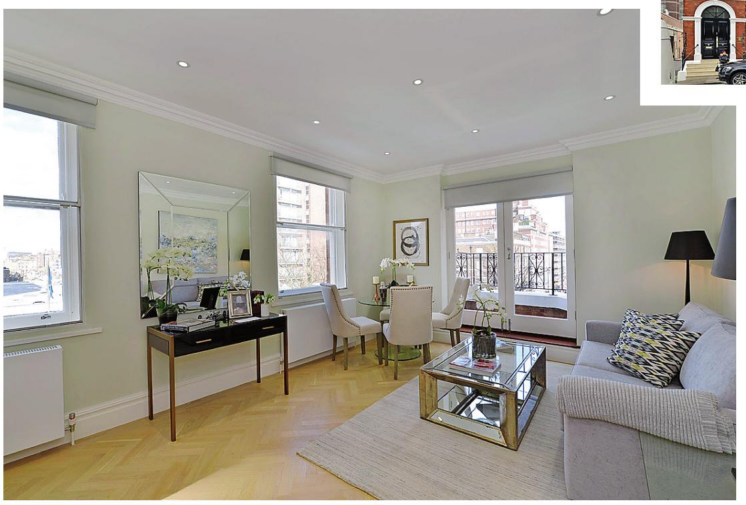
London developer RER London is proud to announce that two show apartments at 33 Greycoat Street - its collection of 23 luxury apartments, duplexes and penthouses in the heart of Westminster - are now available to view. Formerly an office building in the heart of the capital, 33 Greycoat Street is being transformed by RER London into an exceptional and luxurious place to live. The development will be complete in May/June and the apartments are selling fast so prospective buyers should take the opportunity now to take a look.

In keeping with its grand address, 33 Greycoat Street, which is spread over five storeys, features a magnificent red-brick exterior with generous floor-to-ceiling windows framed by stone columns. Homes on the upper levels feature Juliet balconies while those at street level feature a raised plinth and elegant geometric railings to provide privacy. Inside RER London has introduced state-of-the-art specifications to the apartments, crafting and finishing the properties to the highest standard while retaining a traditional architectural feel. The apartments all have their own distinctive characters – varying in layout and dimension and with unique design features of their own.

Prices for the remaining apartments start from £850,000 for a one bedroom apartment and start at £3.16m for a penthouse. For further information please contact the marketing suite on 020 3632 1549 or Savills on 020 3430 6860, or visit 33greycoat.com

Music to the ears

Luxury Estate Agent Kay & Co is proud to launch a luxurious one bedroom apartment on desirable Upper Berkeley Street, where past residents were able to enjoy the sound of Jimi Hendrix practicing his music from his apartment at No.43. The 516 sq ft apartment is



situated on the four floor of a postered building and has been beautifully refurbished, making it ideal for those seeking a pied a terre in the heart of central London. The property features a fully fitted kitchen, a spacious reception room and generous double bedroom with fitted wardrobes. The owner of this new apartment also benefits from a balcony and a private underground parking space.

The apartment is priced at £1,075,000. For further information contact Kay & Co on 020 7262 2030 or visit kayandco.com

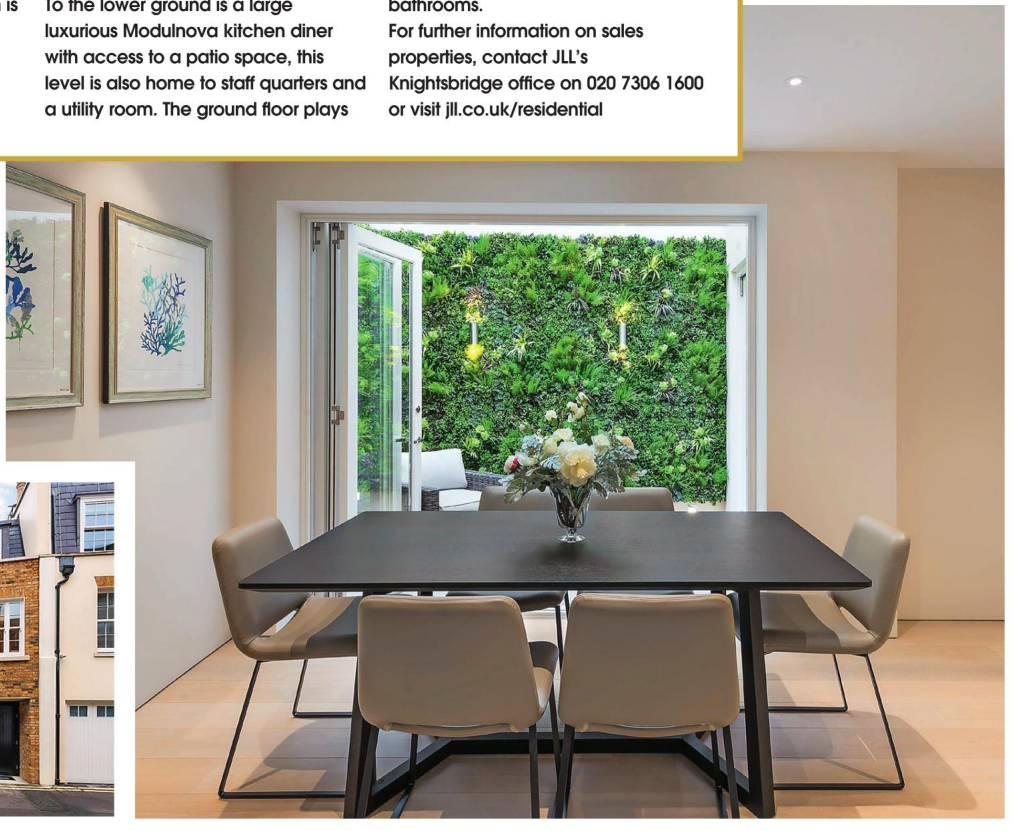
Property of the month

Kinnerton Street, SW1
£6,850,000

Located on a winding, quintessential English village-like lane is 22 Kinnerton Street, a newly built mews on the market with JLL. Masterminded by boutique developers, Wilben, the four-bedroom home, plus staff quarters, offers 2,835 sqft of living space along with two terraces and a patio which is unusual for this type of property. Kinnerton Street is a quiet street located between Lowndes Square and Wilton Place, it is largely made up of mews that were built in the 18thand 19th century. Like most mews houses, these properties were intended to house servants and horses but today, these wonderful iconic homes have been transformed into luxurious iconic homes.

To the lower ground is a large luxurious Modulnova kitchen diner with access to a patio space, this level is also home to staff quarters and a utility room. The ground floor plays host to the main living space, with a drawing room, formal reception room and dining room, along with a large garage. The upper floors are home to a large mastersuite with en-suite and terrace, and two further en-suite bathrooms.

For further information on sales properties, contact JLL's Knightsbridge office on 020 7306 1600 or visit jll.co.uk/residential



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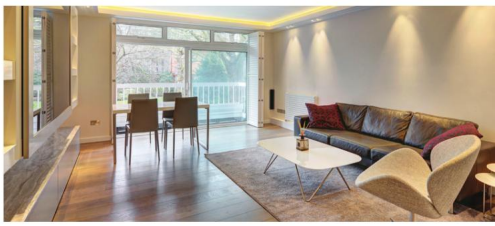
Established 1897



A contemporary apartment overlooking this famous Knightsbridge Garden Square

Clunie House, Hans Place, SW1

- Large reception room overlooking gardens
- Two large double bedrooms with ensuite
- Contemporary full-fitted kitchen
- Separate lock up garage
- Access to private Hans place gardens
- Resident caretaker

GUIDE PRICE
£3,250,000

LEASEHOLD
APPROXIMATELY 117 YEARS

EPC RATING
C

CONTACT
KNIGHTSBRIDGE OFFICE
+44 (0)20 7225 6797
reem.dougramaji@harrodsestates.com

Well-presented apartment in Marylebone

Princess Court, Bryanston Place, W1

- Two double bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Bathroom
- Built-in storage
- Lift
- Porter

GUIDE PRICE
£1,000,000

LEASEHOLD
APPROXIMATELY 42 YEARS

EPC RATING
D

MAYFAIR OFFICE
+44 (0)20 7409 9205
andrew.brennan@harrodsestates.com

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The Property Ombudsman

HARRODS ESTATES
LUXURY PROPERTY AGENTS

Established 1897

A stunning apartment with terrace in this portered block

Ovington Court, Knightsbridge, SW3

- Large bright reception room
- Two spacious double bedrooms
- Fabulous kitchen/dining room
- Beautiful terraced balcony
- Resident porter
- Newly refurbished and interior designed

GUIDE PRICE
£2,850,000

LEASEHOLD
APPROXIMATELY 147 YEARS

EPC RATING
C

CONTACT
KNIGHTSBRIDGE OFFICE
+44 (0)20 7893 8044
michael.harte@harrodsestates.com

A beautifully presented two-bedroom home arranged over four floors

Old Brompton Road, SW5

- Large open-plan double reception room
- Spacious kitchen and dining room
- Master suite complete with balcony
- Steam room
- Wine cellar
- 2,844sq ft (264sq m)

GUIDE PRICE
£3,350,000

LEASEHOLD
APPROXIMATELY 91 YEARS

EPC RATING
C

KENSINGTON OFFICE
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joel.hughes@harrodsestates.com

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Hip to be SQUARE

Opening up garden squares to the public give house hunters the edge

Words FIONA BRANDHORST

Often secluded and nearly always exclusive to residents, garden squares provide the perfect setting to some of the most sought-after homes in the capital. This month we get a sneaky look at these urban oases and the chance to imagine living in one of the gorgeous properties that surround them as part of London's Open Garden Squares Weekend (9-10 June).

'Most of the prestigious addresses that we look after such as Eaton Square, Cadogan Square, Ennismore Gardens and Lowndes Square all have superb garden squares for residents,' says Paul Gransbury, Strutt & Parker Knightsbridge and Belgravia. 'They are a strong selling point and you pay a premium to live there. Access is via a secure gate, which adds kudos, and it's a perfect spot in the summer for sports, community groups and local fairs.'

Elegance exudes from the apartment Strutt & Parker is selling overlooking award-winning Ennismore Gardens in Knightsbridge. Laterally converted across two Victorian residences, the three bedroom property, priced at £3.95m, has striking south facing views over the gardens, which have been extensively restored and stocked with fragrant plants and shrubs over the past 25 years.

Leinster Square, once home to Sting and a short

ABOVE: Hanover Square

LEFT: Leinster Square Garden

NICK ROCHOWSKI PHOTOGRAPHY

ABOVE:
Chartwell House

ABOVE LEFT:
Leinster Square

LEFT:
Wimbledon Hill

BELOW LEFT:
Wellington Row

walk from the cafés and shops at Bayswater and Notting Hill, was created when the surrounding imposing white stucco houses were built between 1856 and 1864. The Alchemi Group, under the watchful eye of English Heritage, has now painstakingly restored a set of Grade ll listed buildings, one previously owned by naturalist William Henry Hudson, a founding member of the RSPB. Triplex apartments and townhouses remain for sale each with three or four double bedrooms, private terraces overlooking the tranquil square, Farrow & Ball colour schemes and bespoke ironmongery and joinery. Prices from £3.85m through Hamptons International and Savills.

At the heart of Mayfair and open to the public all the year round, Hanover Square is moments from designer retailers, clubs and restaurants. Buyers seeking a five-star lifestyle can choose one of 80 new luxury apartments at Hanover Bond, which will enjoy privileged access to dining and housekeeping from London's second Mandarin Oriental Hotel featuring a roof terrace bar with charming views of Mayfair.

Developer Clivedale London's Chief Executive Officer, Tarun Tyagi, comments: 'We are setting a new precedent for architecture, design and lifestyle bringing the comforts of a private home combined with Mandarin Oriental's legendary hospitality.' Prices start from £1.999m for a studio.

On the other side of the capital New Garden Quarter at Stratford has been set around a two-acre garden square recreating the concept of an urban oasis hidden from the bustle of the city and a perfect spot for residents to relax in and organise community events. Telford Homes has partnered with Notting Hill Housing to launch 183 homes with prices from £435,000.

First-time buyers are being offered a rare opportunity to purchase a stylish new apartment set within a fully restored Georgian townhouse in Hackney situated on Clapton Square, one of London's oldest garden squares in London's hipster East End.

Help to Buy is available on the five two and three bedroom apartment scheme by NestEast, with prices from £395,000. The square, designed in 1816 for wealthy Londoners seeking peace and quiet away from the hurly burly of the city, is now a conservation area and retains a village-like feel despite the buzz of the surrounding streets.

Central landscaped gardens within St William's Chartwell House on Prince of Wales Drive, Battersea, have been designed by renowned urban planners Gillespies. The collection of 85 apartments has balconies with iconic views of Battersea Power Station or the communal gardens. A landscaped roof terrace on the eighth floor offers extra outdoor space. Prices from £700,000.

A nod to a more formal garden square is in evidence at Wimbledon Hill Park, the Berkeley Homes conversion of the former Atkinson Morley Hospital. Beyond the gated courtyard garden acres of protected parkland give residents more breathing space to add to the opportunities for cycling, walking, cricket and running on nearby Wimbledon Common. London Waterloo can is just 17 minutes from Wimbledon station. Prices start from £1,050,000 for a one-bedroom apartment. r

HOT TREND

A Prime Central London developer on why looking down may result in an upturn in fortunes

Words JASON GALE

It's often said that property is the greatest investment of all. Not only can you live in it, but over a period of time it nearly always increases in value and when it's time to sell, the amount that can be achieved can make the original purchase price seem quite paltry.

However, at the time of going to print, house prices within some of the most desirable areas in London are stagnating or, in some cases, falling. Consequently, savvy home owners are holding on to their existing residences and improving their properties. This not only adds long-term value to a property, but also improves the living environment as they are now staying in their homes longer than originally anticipated.

This is great news for Nick Jeffries, owner of NU Projects (once dubbed as the 'Gucci Builders' operating out of their plush offices on Fulham High Street). 'Rather than selling homes and trading up, many London residents are opting to stay put and remodel instead. Home owners are investing in their existing houses, improving the finish, adding basements, developing loft spaces and generally adding value to their properties. They are happy to stay longer in an improved environment and wait to reap the rewards.'

As a property developer I've personally worked with both NU Projects and other partners across the capital, assisting home owners to add extra value to their homes – and I would say that one of the most dramatic property alterations would be adding a basement to a London home.

There are many things to consider when adding a basement. In fact, far more than I can cover here, but here are some of the key points. Building underground is more expensive then building above ground, but the rewards can be massive. A ballpark figure for creating a new space underneath your house, with shell and core with a decent finish, would be in the region of £450 per sq ft. This may sound expensive, but considering that it will probably add a value of £1,000 per sq ft (depending on postcode) then this appears to be a very worthwhile investment. Think about what you could do with that extra space – perhaps add further bedrooms, a gym, even a swimming pool, and the investment becomes apparent.

Basement construction is not a straight-forward process. From planning to party wall permissions, to construction and fit out, it is vital to select your construction partner very carefully. Ensure they have a proven track record in successfully completing basement renovations, ask to speak to property owners where similar basement builds have been completed and ensure all contractors possess relevant certification. Building a basement is a niche skill requiring a specialist builder. It's a valuable investment – the rewards should be fantastic! r

For more information please email gale.jason@gmail.com

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EPC RATING C

£10,500 PER WEEK

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•

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Prices correct at time of issue.

Sales agent

HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL

A development by

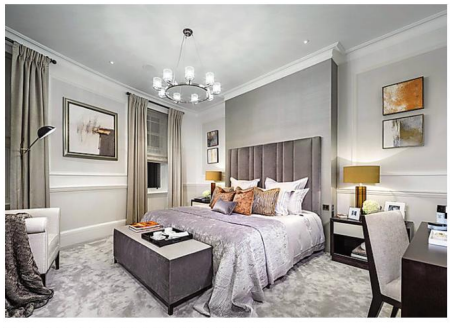
be

HEADING SOUTH

A beautifully finished three bedroom apartment overlooking Mount Street Gardens

Located in the heart of Mayfair, just moments from the prestigious Berkeley Square and Grosvenor Square, this large three bedroom mansion block apartment on South Street has been transformed by award-winning developers Luxlo to create a sophisticated London home.

With direct views overlooking Mount Street Gardens, the generous lateral reception room combines opulent wide grained oak flooring with bespoke recessed cabinetry and elegant seating to create a sophisticated and luxurious space in which to both entertain and relax. Featuring a dining table with seating for eight, the intricately designed dining area harmoniously blends exquisite detailing with the apartment's signature walnut joinery. Concealing state-of-the-art Gaggenau appliances behind handmade oak cabinetry, the design and layout of the kitchen has been carefully considered to ensure it is both practical and inspiring. The kitchen also benefits from an integrated breakfast bar and a separate utility area.



The opulent master bedroom

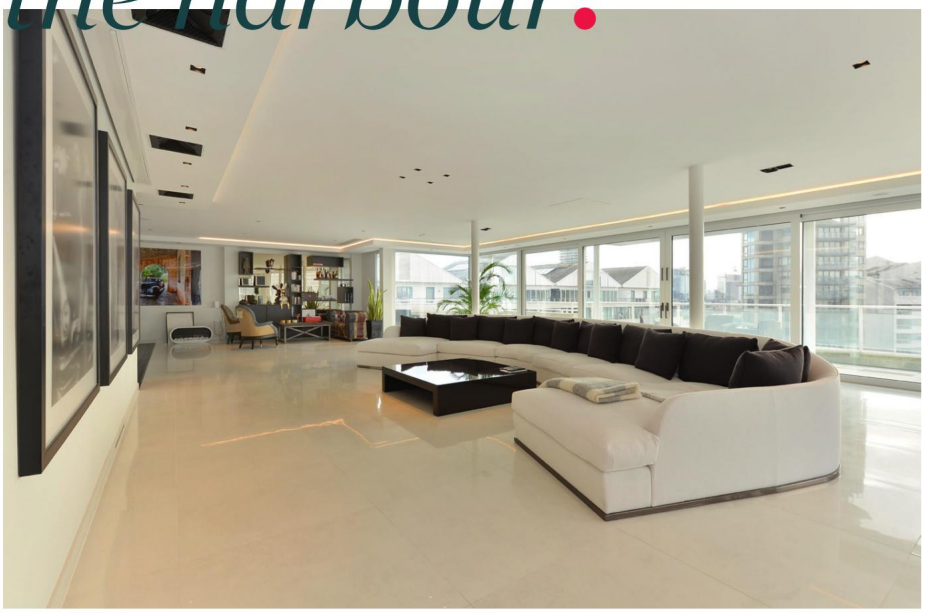
Impressive in both its design and size, the spacious master bedroom features a beautiful master bed with a headboard upholstered in satin, full height cabinetry, lavish dressing room and a marble bathroom complete with Aquavision television. As with the other rooms in the apartment, bedroom two and three and their respective en-suite bathrooms effortlessly combine handcrafted joinery and stonework, delicate fabrics, bespoke furnishings and a high quality finish.

South Street is often regarded as a quintessential example of Mayfair architecture and No. 51 is one of the best mansion blocks of its kind, overlooking Mount Street Gardens. The apartment gives its future owners a perfect view, set within a perfect location.

South Street, W1K, is priced at £8,950,000. For more information, contact Knight Frank Mayfair & St James's on 020 3463 0320

The penthouse in *the harbour.*

Knight Frank



King's Quay, Chelsea Harbour SW10

- Stylish interiors with state of the art home technology
- Exceptional views over the marina
- Exclusive and private lift access directly into the apartment

Chelsea Harbour is located adjacent to Imperial Wharf and close to the shops and restaurants of Fulham and Chelsea. Central London is easily accessible, and the River bus service is also available at Chelsea Harbour Pier.

Our Riverside expert, Matthew Smith, looks forward to helping you.

matthew.smith@knightfrank.com
020 3597 7670
07825 402464

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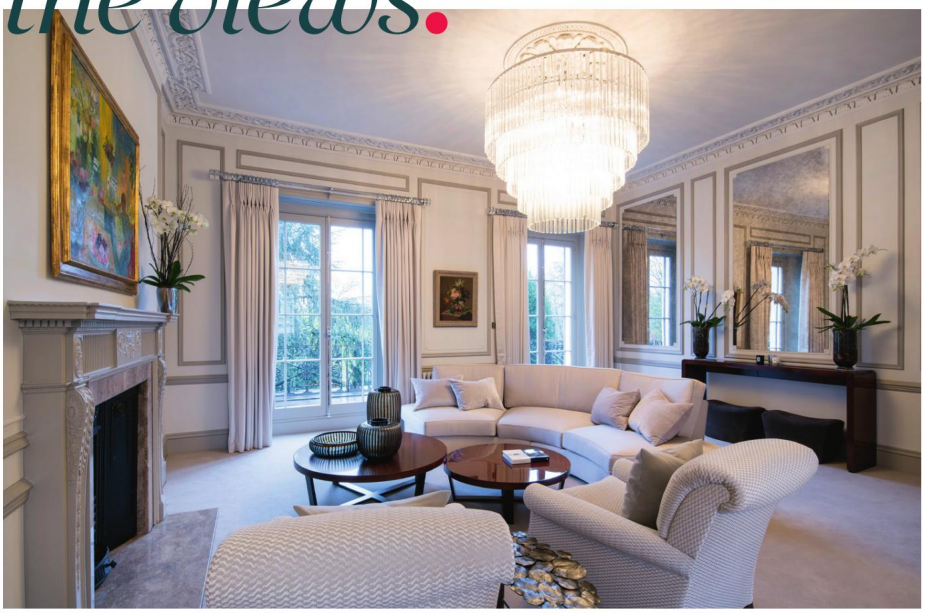
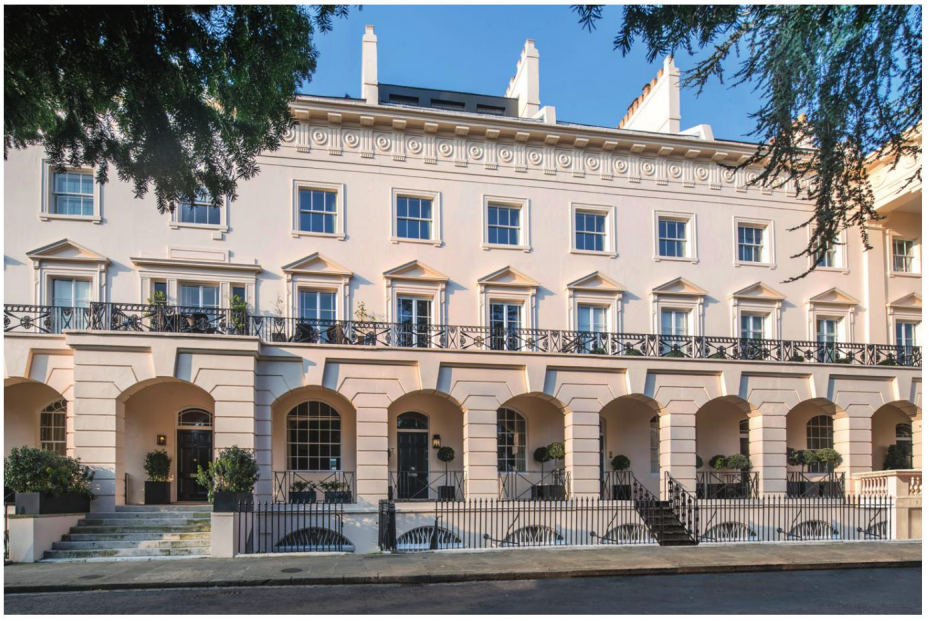
Guide price
£7,500,000
Leasehold approximately 93 years remaining

OnTheMarket.com

The house with *the views.*

Knight Frank





Hanover Terrace, Regent's Park NW1

- Grade I listed house which has just undergone a beautiful restoration
- Benefits from a west facing rear garden and a mews house
- Built by Thomas Nash in 1822

Hanover Terrace is one of the most desirable and sought after locations within Regent's Park, close to the boating lake, open air theatre and Queen Mary's Garden.

Our St John's Wood expert, Daniel Daggers, looks forward to helping you.

daniel.daggers@knightfrank.com
020 7861 1758
07879 848374

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Guide price
£19,950,000
Freehold

OnTheMarket.com

The home with the *Royal Park view.*

Knight Frank

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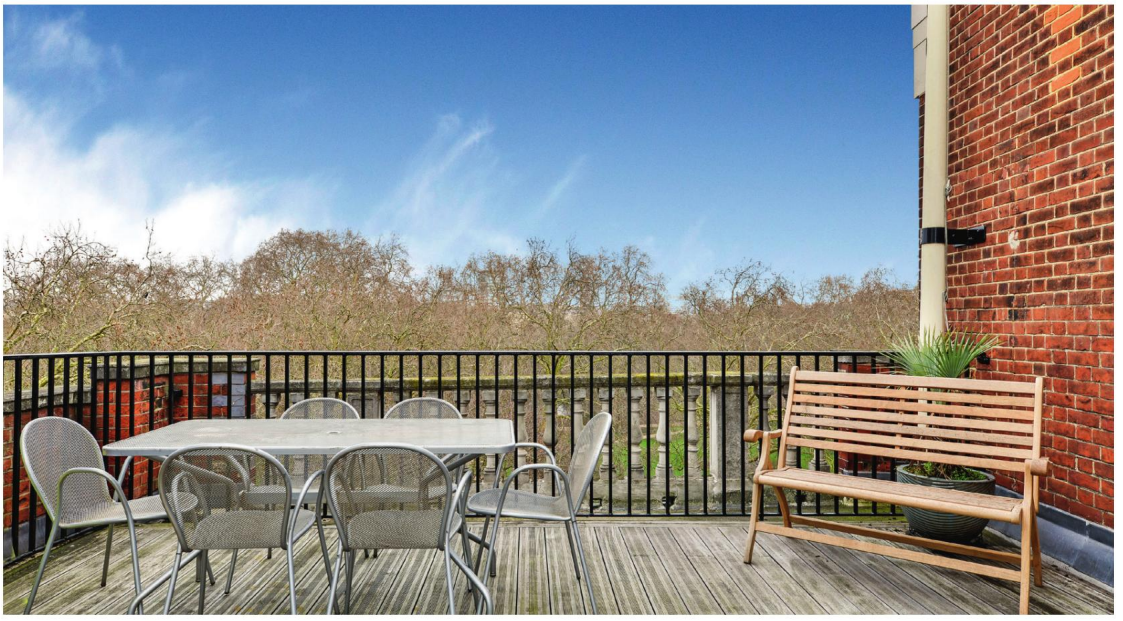

Old Queen Street, Westminster SW1

- Grade II listed Arts and Crafts period house
- Built in 1909 by renowned Scottish architect F.W. Troup
- Approximately 4,764 sq ft (442.58 sq m)

Old Queen Street is positioned within the Birdcage Walk Conservation area and the house backs on to the 57 acre Grade I listed St. James's Park.

Our Victoria and Westminster expert, Robert Oatley, looks forward to helping you.

robert.oatley@knightfrank.com
020 35442487
07773 967762

knightfrank.co.uk

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Guide price
£8,950,000
Freehold

OnTheMarket.com

The home with *three balconies.*

Knight Frank

Warwick Square, Pimlico SW1

- White stucco fronted Grade II listed building
- Substantial duplex apartment split over two floors
- Approximately 2,972 sq ft (275.2 sq m)

Warwick Square and the adjacent area were laid out by Thomas Cubitt in the 1840's and are located in one of the City of Westminster's Conservation areas.

Our Victoria & Westminster expert, Emma Vincent, looks forward to helping you.

emma.vincent@knightfrank.com
020 3641 6034
07976 859001

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Guide price
£3,500 per week

Available unfurnished on a long let

OnTheMarket.com

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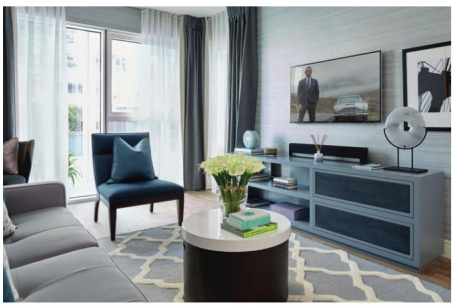
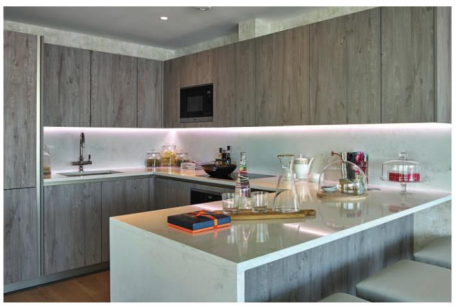
All potential tenants should be advised that, as well as rent, an administration fee of £288 and referencing fees of £48 per person will apply when renting a property. There will also be a £48 charge to register your deposit with the Tenancy Deposit Scheme if applicable. (All fees shown are inclusive of VAT.) Please ask us for more information about other fees that will apply or visit www.knightfrank.co.uk/tenantfees. Knight Frank is a member of the ARLA Client Money Protection Scheme and our redress scheme for consumers is Ombudsman Services: Property.

BATTERSEA REACH

LONDON'S AWARD WINNING RIVERSIDE DESTINATION





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Sales

020 7100 4343

£499,950 Leasehold

Westbourne Terrace, Hyde Park, W2

Set on the ground floor of a beautiful white stucco fronted residence is this well proportioned one bedroom apartment. The flat comprises a spacious open plan kitchen/reception room, double bedroom with fitted wardrobes, bathroom and large storage cupboard. The apartment further benefits from an off street parking space on a first come first served basis. Westbourne Terrace is an elegant tree lined street ideally located for Hyde Park and the restaurants, shops and bars of London's West End and Queensway.

Energy Efficiency Rating - C73

1 1

£1,050,000 Share of Freehold

OnTheMarket.com

Gloucester Terrace, Hyde Park, W2

A beautifully presented garden flat situated within an elegant white stucco fronted period residence. This superb apartment comprises a large reception/dining room with an open-plan fully fitted kitchen, three bedrooms, an en-suite bathroom to the principal bedroom and third bedroom, a guest cloakroom and a charming, secluded south west facing patio-garden. This property further benefits from ample storage, wooden flooring throughout and a private entrance.

Energy Efficiency Rating - C69

3 3

Lettings

020 7100 6868

£1,095* p/w Unfurnished (£4,745 p/m)

Walton Street, Knightsbridge, SW3

A stunning recently refurbished and interior designed apartment situated on the first floor of this conversion. Boarding Knightsbridge and Chelsea, this bright and airy property consists of two double bedrooms, with an en-suite shower room to the principal bedroom, a further shower room and a well-proportioned eat-in kitchen/reception room. The property also benefits from having a large private terrace which is completely secluded. This apartment is just moments away from Department Stores such as Harrods & Harvey Nichols.

Energy Efficiency Rating - E49

2 2

£1,099* p/w Un / Furnished (£4,762 p/m)

Queens Gardens, Hyde Park, W2

A newly decorated four double bedroom duplex apartment situated on Queens Gardens, offering in excess of 1800 sq ft of well-planned accommodation, featuring a fully fitted kitchen and a large dining room with ample storage throughout. The reception room overlooks the garden square which is exclusive to Queens Gardens residents. The property further consists of four double bedrooms, family bathroom, and guest cloakroom and an en-suite bathroom to the principal bedroom.

Energy Efficiency Rating - D60

4 2

Set fees apply for all tenancies: £180.00 administration fee per tenancy + £48.00 referencing charge per Tenant/Guarantor. For variable charges and deposits explained please visit www.g-h.co.uk

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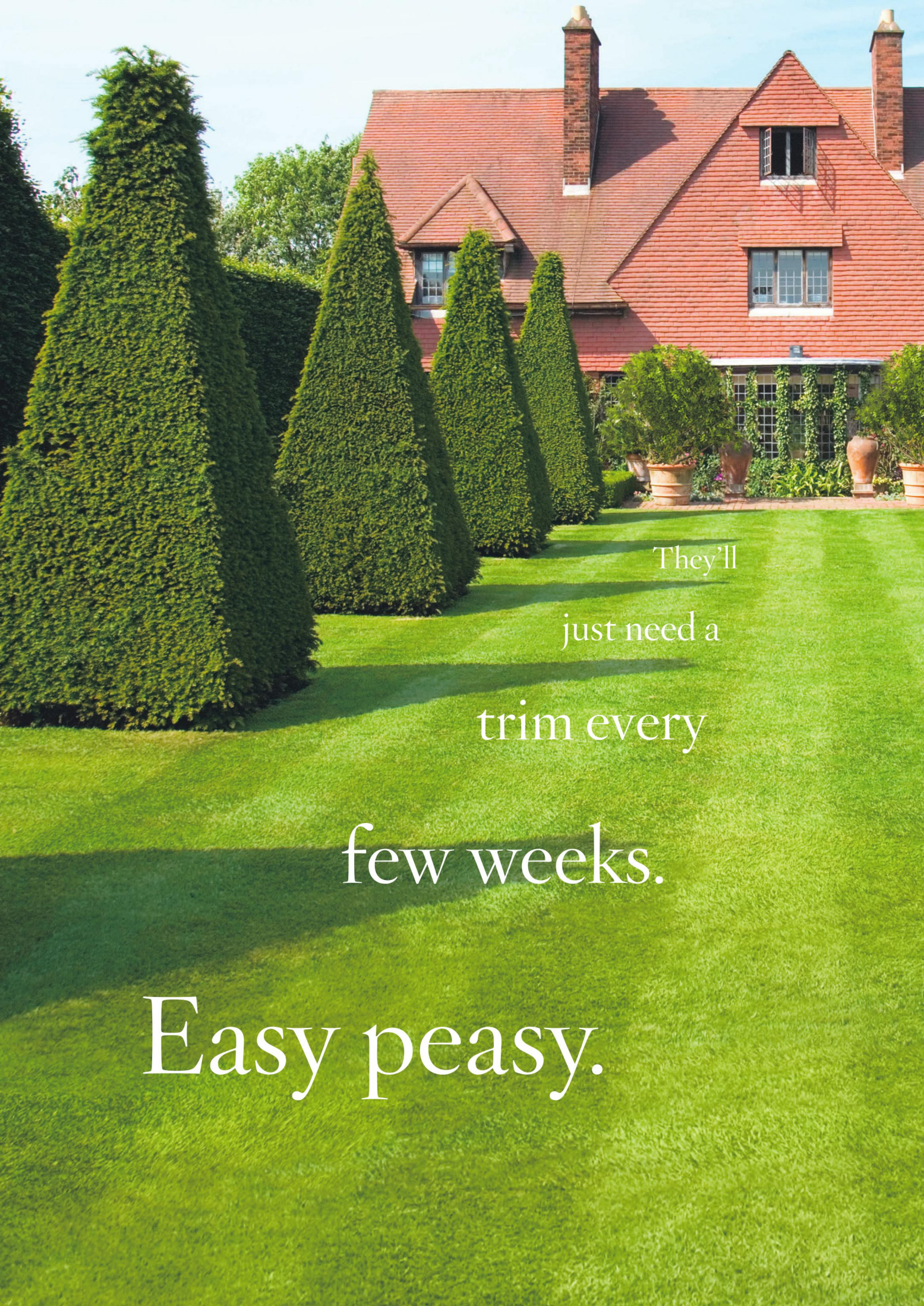
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trim every
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south facing gardens using keyword search.
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Moring Road, SW17

£1,140,000 FREEHOLD

PERIOD HOUSE, FOUR BEDROOMS, DOUBLE RECEPTION ROOM

A four double bedroom period house with a stylish kitchen/dining room with bi-folding doors that lead to a private south west facing garden. There are two large reception rooms and the property includes underfloor heating in the kitchen/dining room and bathroom.

Moring Road is a prime Tooting Bec location close to Tooting Bec underground station and Tooting Bec Common. The High Streets of both Tooting and Balham located close by, energy rating e.

TOOTING **020 8767 0522** | www.jacksonsestateagents.com/tooting

Jacksons

Hosack Road, SW17

£900,000 SHARE OF FREEHOLD

NEWLY REFURBISHED, OPEN PLAN, THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS

A newly refurbished period apartment located on the ground floor. The open plan kitchen/reception room has a brand new kitchen and a larger than average cellar that offers a wealth of storage. There are three bedrooms and French doors opening to a rear garden.

Located on Hosack Road, this flat is well situated for access to Balham mainline and underground stations, as well as the shops, bars and restaurants nearby, energy rating f.

BALHAM **020 8675 6565** | www.jacksonsestateagents.com/balham

Jacksons

Kingscourt Road, SW16

£2,800 PER MONTH

FOUR BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS, GARDEN

Set over three floors, a four bedroom terraced house with two reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room and modern family bathroom. There is a study, a cellar and a rear garden. This Victorian home is located on a prestigious road just off Streatham Hill and close to Streatham Hill Station, energy rating e.

BALHAM **020 8677 9900** | www.jacksonsestateagents.com/streatham

Heathfield Road, SW18

£2,500 PER MONTH

PENTHOUSE APARTMENT, TWO BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS

This luxury penthouse apartment has two double bedrooms and two bathroom suites. Set over two floors, there are two private terraces with views of London. There are also two large reception rooms, underfloor heating and secure underground parking, energy rating b.

EARLSFIELD **020 8767 0522** | www.jacksonsestateagents.com/earlsfield

Tenants fees apply: £180 per tenancy towards administration, £60 reference fee per tenant and £144 for a professional check in (All inc of VAT).

Jacksons

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OUR LANDLORDS
We charge our letting fee monthly

Sarsfeld Road, SW12

£2,250 PER MONTH

OPEN PLAN, JULIET BALCONY, TWO BEDROOMS

A split level apartment with two bedrooms set within a Victorian conversion building on Sarsfeld Road. The property has an open plan kitchen/reception room, two bathrooms and is located close to the open spaces of Wandsworth Common, energy rating c.

BALHAM **020 8675 6565** | www.jacksonsestateagents.com/balham

Lisle Close, SW17

£1,700 PER MONTH

MODERN DEVELOPMENT, TWO BEDROOMS, TWO BATHROOMS

A modern two double bedroom flat located in a popular development in Tooting Bec, suitable for professional sharers or a professional couple. There is a reception room and separate modern kitchen. The property is set near the vast green spaces of Tooting Common, energy rating c.

TOOTING **0208 767 0522** | www.jacksonsestateagents.com/tooting

Tenants fees apply: £180 per tenancy towards administration, £60 reference fee per tenant and £144 for a professional check in (All inc of VAT).

Westbourne Park Road, Notting Hill, W2

£5,500,000 Freehold

A stylish and beautifully presented four bedroom family house with off street parking and a fabulous private garden.

2,717 sq ft
Drawing Room | Sitting room | Kitchen | Four bedrooms | Three Bathrooms | Garden | Off street parking | EPC rating D

Notting Hill 020 3930 1427
nottinghill@struttandparker.com

Ladbroke Gardens, Notting Hill, W11

£2,500,000 Leasehold

A wonderful three bedroom duplex with direct access to communal gardens.

1,425 SQ FT
Reception room | Kitchen | Master bedroom with en suite shower room | Two bedrooms | Bathroom | EPC rating D

Notting Hill 020 3930 1427
nottinghill@struttandparker.com

GOING TO TOWN

King's Holt Terrace: contemporary townhouses in an exciting W10 location

Families seeking a unique new home in Zone 2 should take a close look at King's Holt Terrace, an immaculately designed collection of just 15 four-bedroom townhouses, each with its own private roof terrace and integral garage, by developer Be. These luxurious homes are in one of the most sought-after areas of W10 and are perfectly placed for modern city living. They are situated just off the revered Chamberlayne Road, amid the fantastic array of boutiques, bars and restaurants that create the exciting atmosphere of this vibrant area.

On the doorstep is a new multi-million pound leisure complex, which opens in summer 2018. Its superb facilities for all the family enhance the enviable lifestyle at King's Holt Terrace. Travelling around London is very easy, thanks to the proximity of Kensal Green and Kensal Rise stations. From Kensal Green, trains whisk you to Baker Street in 14 minutes and Oxford Circus in 18 minutes. Crossrail launches at nearby Paddington this year and will revolutionise travel with journey times of 4 minutes to Bond Street and 17 minutes to Canary Wharf. One of London's best loved green spaces at Hampstead Heath is a 9-minute train ride away from Kensal Rise.

Tina Dedman, Sales & Marketing Director at Be, comments: 'We take great care to select prime locations for all our developments, but the setting of King's Holt Terrace is exceptional. The ambience of a London village, great amenities, superb design of the homes and excellent transport links add up to the perfect package for families.'

ABOVE: The immaculate interiors of King's Holt Terrace

The modern exterior architecture of King's Holt Terrace features soft coloured brick, subtle brick detailing, extensive glazing that allows natural light to flood into the homes and striking framed entrance doors. Set over four floors, the homes are very spacious, extending up to 1755sqft, and are designed with family life in mind, blending elegant design with real practicality.

At the heart of the home is a spacious kitchen/dining area, where families can gather together. The designer kitchen is fitted with high-quality appliances and features cabinetry finished in tones of platinum to complement the Cinza Letano unistone work surfaces. On the first floor, a separate living room provides a relaxing space away from the hubbub of family life.

The large master bedroom is a calm haven that boasts an en-suite shower room and spacious walk-in dressing room. Three bathrooms and en-suite shower rooms combine grey oversized wall and floor tiles with contemporary white suites. The pinnacle of each home is the roof terrace, which is accessed by an innovative roof light and is the perfect place to chill out at the end of the day. r

Prices at King's Holt Terrace start at £1.4m. Also available as part of the development are two-bedroom apartments which are set around the leisure complex; prices at Prime Place Kensal Rise start from £690,000. For more information and to view the newly-launched show townhouse and the show apartment, please contact 020 7758 8487 or email hello@be.co.uk, plus visit be.co.uk

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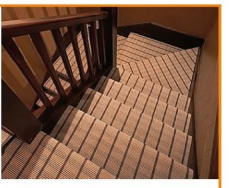

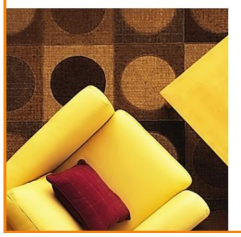

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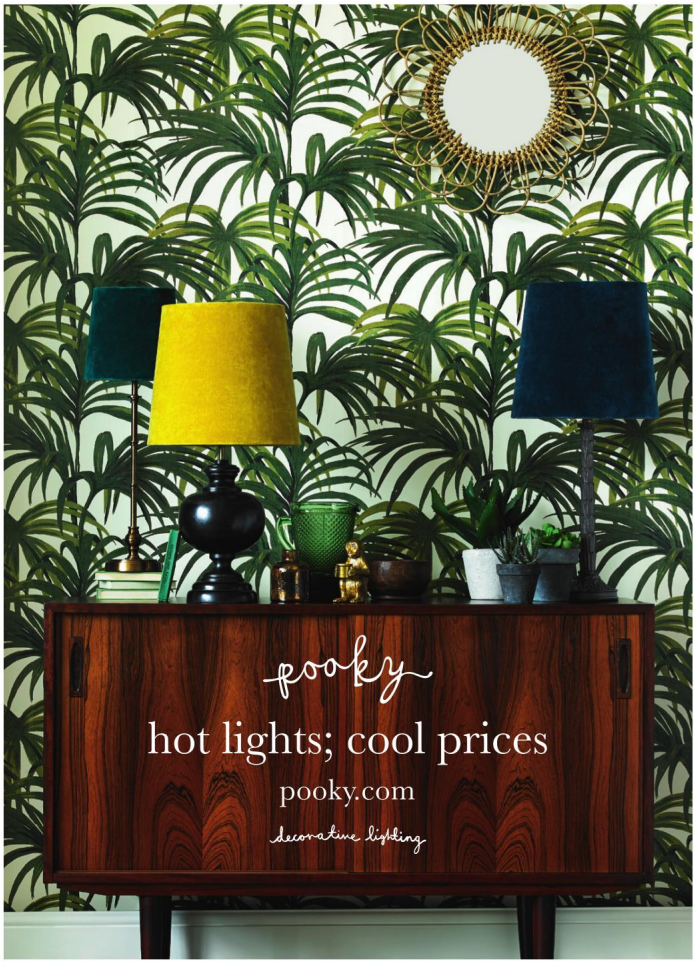

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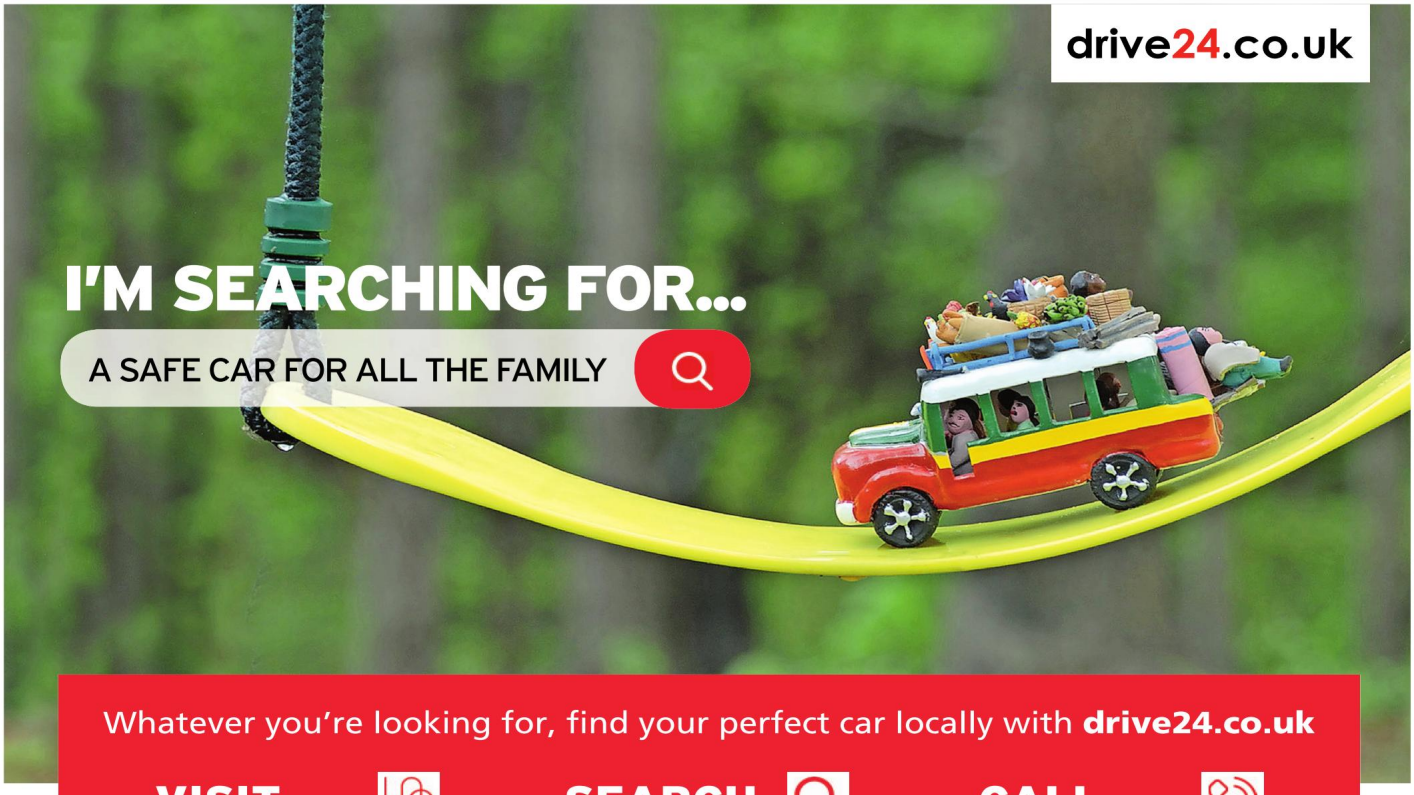

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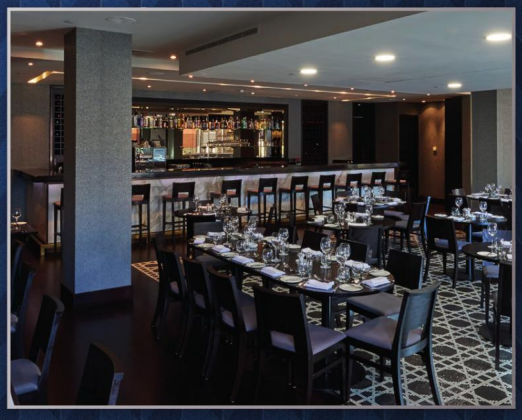

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